Daily Report

Latin America

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Foreign Ministers Address OAS Assembly

PY0806115890

[Editorial Report] Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish on page 14 on 6 June carries a 200-word report on the speech by Guatemalan Foreign Minister Ariel Rivera Irias to the OAS General Assembly in Asuncion, Paraguay. According to the report, Rivera stresses that "the Guatemalan Government policy on human rights is firm and defined," adding that the government promotes the full respect and observance of human rights and freedoms in the country and "cooperation" with entities responsible for the defense of these values on the international scene.

On the same page the newspaper also publishes a 500-word report on Costa Rican Foreign Minister Bernard H. Niehaus Quesada's speech to the OAS Assembly. Niehaus says that the people can exercise their sovereignty "over governments that violate" their constitutions. Niehaus stresses that the democratic process does not end with an election, that Latin American democracies must be consolidated with hard work. Niehaus says that "a concerted action in defense of human rights today can avoid a concerted action to preserve democracy tomorrow." Niehaus also talks about "his government's proposal to declare 1991 as Inter-American Commerce Year," about the effects of drug trafficking on society, and about "bequeathing our children and grandchildren" a continent in which we can live in harmony with nature.

On the same page the newspaper also publishes a 300-word report on Mexican Foreign Minister Fernando Solana's speech to the OAS Assembly. Solan says "it is obvious that the cold war" and the postwar world "no longer exist," and that the Inter-American System must adapt to the new era through "hemispheric cooperation." Solana criticized the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty (TIAR) saying that Inter-American treaties "were used to intervene in the internal affairs of member states."

On page 15 the newspaper publishes a 250-word report on El Salvador Deputy Foreign Minister Ricardo Orlando Valdivieso's speech to the OAS Assembly. Valdivieso criticizes the lack of an Inter-American policy to negotiate continental problems with developed nations and the "negligence" of former Latin American governments in preserving the environment. Valdivieso also calls for "effective national and multinational measures to fight drug trafficking."

Chilean Foreign Minister on Landlocked Bolivia

PY0706173690 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Jun 90

[Report by Ivan Silva Acuna from Asuncion]

[Text] The OAS assembly has not made any decision on the matter of the Bolivian landlocked situation after the statements made on the issue by the Bolivian and Chilean foreign ministers and by the Uruguayan foreign minister, who said that his counterparts discussed the matter in a cordial atmosphere. The Bolivian representative said that his country was willing to hold a dialogue. The Chilean foreign minister voiced a similar position to the press.

[Begin Silva Cimma recording] I think that the matter of the Bolivian landlocked situation was analyzed in a very friendly atmosphere. Bolivia calmly reiterated the (?publications) and the proposals it has already made.

We reaffirmed that we are not obviously giving up our legal position that we have already discussed in the past, but above this we want to make it known that the democratic Chile is deeply encouraged by its generosity and comprehension toward its friends and brothers from Latin America. [end recording]

River Plate Basin Members Endorse Waterway

PY0806181290 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 8 Jun 90 p 7

[Text] Representatives from member countries of the River Plate Basin (Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Paraguay, and Uruguay) yesterday signed a joint declaration expressing their satisfaction over negotiations held thus far to implement the Parana, Paraguay rivers waterway project.

The document—which was signed by the foreign ministers of Argentina and Paraguay and by the ambassadors of Brazil, Argentina and Bolivia—conveys "the support and satisfaction of their respective governments for the results obtained in the first meeting of the intergovernmental committee on the Parana-Paraguay waterway project held in Buenos Aires, Republic of Argentina, from 7 to 9 May 1990. Significant progress toward the implementation of the project was made at this meeting."

The declaration also voices support for the foreign ministers' plan to meet in September to evaluate each member's compliance with its respective commitment and to provide the necessary political support to vigorously promote the waterway project so integration and cooperation among the member countries may materialize as soon as possible.

They also endorse the desire to immediately address the issue of obtaining the required financial resources in addition to those offered by the IDB [Inter-American Development Bank] and Fonplata [River Plate Development Fund] to conduct studies, and to manage and execute the project.

In a ceremony held yesterday afternoon at the site of the 20th OAS General Assembly, the governments of Peru and Paraguay exchanged instruments of ratification of the Basic Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation signed between the two countries.

The ceremony was presided over by Paraguayan Vice Foreign Minister Hugo Saguier Caballero and by his Peruvian counterpart Alfonso Rivero Monsalve. They both emphasized the cordial, close ties existing between their two countries.

The Paraguayan and Peruvian delegations also agreed on establishing a mechanism for consultation and coordination between the two countries at the level of vice foreign minister.

OAS General Assembly Votes on Falklands

PY0806192890 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 8 Jun 90 p 1

[Text] (DYN)—The Organization of American States (OAS) General Assembly approved by unanimous vote a statement urging both Argentina and Britain to negotiate a definite solution for the Malvinas Islands sovereignty issue, the Foreign Ministry reported.

The statement reflecting continued hemispheric interest in the dispute, also expressed satisfaction for the resumption of diplomatic ties between Argentina and Britain.

'Declaration of Asuncion' To Be Signed 8 June

FL0806165490 Bridgetown CANA in English 1539 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Text] Asuncion, Paraguay, June 8, CANA—Delegates from North America, Latin America, and the Caribbean were preparing Friday [8 June] to close the 20th regular session of the Organisation of American States (OAS) General Assembly, with the signing of the Declaration of Asuncion, a statement of the principles that will guide regional action within the OAS over the coming years.

The meeting was opened Monday [4 June] by the president of Paraguay, General Andres Rodriguez. The meeting attracted the participation—unprecedented for OAS general Assembly sessions—of five other presidents from the Americas.

The closing session was scheduled for late Friday night, and the general assembly was spending the day concluding committee work on several major draft resolutions.

The first committee on judicial and political matters, chaired by ambassador William Douglas of Barbados, adopted a draft resolution which has to be ratified in plenary session, expressing "concern over the persistence of serious violations of basic rights and freedoms in several countries of the region, particularly of cases that infringe upon the full effectiveness of the civil and political rights recognised in the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man and in the American Convention on Human Rights."

The draft was approved after the chairman of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, Leo Valladares Lanza of Honduras, presented the annual report issued by that body and a special report on the situation on Haiti. The draft noted with satisfaction "progress being made in Haiti in the area of human rights under the new provisional government," but added that further action was required.

The general assembly also condemned "the practice of forced disappearances as a crime against humanity and the use of torture as an abomination that is an affront to the very nature of the human being."

In another draft resolution to be ratified by the assembly, it was stated that "the increase in indiscriminate and selective violence perpetrated by irregular armed groups in some states of the hemisphere demands that the new situations arising in that context be assessed responsibly, rigorously and with impartiality, in order to monitor closely the protection of human rights in the region."

The draft reaffirms the general assembly's condemnation of terrorist activities and its decision to combat them within the full respect of human rights. It goes on to "express its most emphatic rejection of the crimes perpetrated by irregular armed groups and its deep concern over the adverse effects of such acts on the enjoyment of human rights, endangering as they do the functioning and stability of democratic institutions of the hemisphere."

Caribbean delegations had an important participation in the general assembly, which was denoted in the statements made by head delegates.

Ambassador Edmund Hawkins Lake of Antigua and Barbuda said the OAS "would be further enriched by the opportunity which will be provided to Guyana and Belize" to join as members later this year.

He also told the assembly that "if the (100-year-old) OAS is to survive the next 100 years, it must be reinvigorated and undergo some fundamental change."

Ambassador William V. Herbert of St. Kitts and Nevis said the OAS "has to become a people's organisation.... Our students must be taught about the goals, the principles, the charter of the organisation, its organism, the significance of Inter-American dialogue, and the coexistence it breeds."

"We expect our organisation to fight harder against poverty, to reduce social inequalities, to promote regional and subregional integration, improve infrastructure, enhance regional trade, upgrade education, science, and culture...." he concluded.

Venezuela Refuses To Sign

PY0906205690 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 9 Jun 90 p 14, 15

[Text] The so-called Asuncion Declaration, which was to have been symbolically signed by the representatives that participated in the 20th OAS General Assembly as an expression of the problems and commitments of the

countries that are members of the Inter-American System, was not signed because of the strong opposition of the Venezuelan delegation, which termed the document as "lyrical," merely declarative and inadequate for this historical time.

The Asuncion Declaration was proposed by our country's representatives with the intention that it be a document of conclusions that would pass into history as the last and most important agreement to be signed by the hemisphere's countries.

This purpose was frustrated because of the position adopted by Venezuela's diplomatic representatives, who refused to sign the commitment. It has also been revealed that OAS authorities had asked the Venezuelan diplomats to at least sign the document symbolically, but they warned that they reserved the right to oppose the document.

In view of this event, it was deemed appropriate that the Asuncion Declaration be included in the packet of resolutions that the OAS had to approve during the final plenary session. Thus, the much-publicized declaration became merely another resolution without very much importance despite the fact that it encompassed nearly all the problems that exist on the continent, although it does not contain any proposal for concrete action or joint intervention with the United States in these problems.

Adolfo Raul Taylhardat, Venezuelan ambassador to the OAS who expounded his delegation's position, stated: "It is a document that has been written in a language outside all reality. It is a text that repeats a series of promises and demonstrations of intent that have been made so many times within the framework of the OAS and they do not respond to today's situation." He added that the declaration is outdated, basically because of the fact that it has not been adapted to "the transformations that are occurring throughout the world."

"I would have preferred a brief declaration outlining today's important topics and that a firm purpose be expressed, a firm political desire of achieving a solution to the problems," the ambassador asserted. Moreover, he indicated that it is not a question of "opposition," but simply a determination "not to sign" the document.

"Every sovereign country has the right to adhere to or not adhere to a proposal. We have not assumed this position to achieve a success or to seek results; I am simply outlining my government's position. I respect the position that has been adopted by other countries. We are not doing this to cause an obstacle; if the other countries want to sign, we have no problems," the diplomat said.

He based his delegation's decision on the fact that "following the speech that President Carlos Andres Perez gave in Washington in which he outlined the need for a thorough reform of the Inter-American system; to continue with the same documents, the same pronouncements, with that lyrical speech, is not appropriate," he indicated.

20th OAS General Assembly Closes in Asuncion

PY0906205890 Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 9 Jun 90 p 8

[Text] Paraguayan Foreign Relations Minister Luis Maria Argana, the "foreign minister of The Americas," closed the 20th OAS Assembly near midnight on 8 June with a moving speech. The OAS General Assembly met in Asuncion for one unforgettable week of not only national but also international significance. The representatives of various delegations expressed their satisfaction over the welcome extended to them in Paraguay and over the accomplishments of this continental conference regarding many burning hemispheric issues.

The closing session began around 2103, presided over by Foreign Minister Argana with his customary ability and equanimity. It had to be adjourned twice because necessary documents had not been supplied on time.

Be that as it may, the 20th OAS General Assembly approved between 20 and 30 resolutions. The report of the speaker for the Political and Legal Affairs Committee took too long even though the Colombian delegate had promised to be brief.

However, it took him more than 50 minutes to read his report. The many resolutions that were approved dealt with the American Convention on Forced Disappearance of Persons; the list of legal obstacles that prevent a more dynamic regional integration; privileges and immunities; the regulations for OAS headquarters and negotiations with the United States of America, its permanent host country; rules and regulations for the operations of the OAS General Secretariat; the American Convention on Refugees, especially in Central America; and the annual report of the Inter-American Human Rights Committee.

On this particular subject of interest to our country, the speaker stated that the regional committee reported, after its most recent visit to Paraguay, that it ascertained that President Rodriguez' administration had implemented measures to secure respect for human rights adding, however, that it had found "certain obstacles."

During the final session of the 20th General Assembly the majority of the members approved, in keeping with the recommendations of the appropriate commission, the resolution abolishing the death penalty in the hemisphere. The United States of America and Mexico objected to some aspects of this resolution.

The final session also approved the recommendation for the strengthening of democracy on the continent, and of the OAS itself, thus reflecting the wishes of all delegations.

It also approved the recommendations concerning the demobilization of the Nicaraguan "contras"; the situation in El Salvador; and clandestine arms trafficking. The 21st OAS Assembly will open in Santiago, Chile, on 3 June 1991.

Foreign Minister Argana conveyed his "sincere gratitude" to all delegations for their cooperation toward the success of this continental meeting and also thanked local journalists and foreign correspondents who certainly worked hard throughout this diplomatic gathering.

Daily Evaluates Paraguay-Continent Relations

PY0806001990 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 7 Jun 90 p 10

[Editorial: "Constructive Relations with the United States"]

[Text] One of the important effects of the OAS General Assembly was the indication of a new relationship between Paraguay and the other countries of the continent. Relations with the United States have a special relevance because they received a new impulse following 2 February 1989 [date of coup in which Alfredo Stroessner was ousted].

In this regard, it is worth mentioning the statement made by U.S. delegate Lawrence Eagleburger who congratulated President Rodriguez "on his struggle to make the promise of full democracy a reality."

Our country, having ousted the previous regime, has finally been able to adjust to the ideals of the Inter-American system and to the establishment of democracy as a way of government on the basis of respect for human dignity.

Another important aspect of the new situation is the announcement that AID will resume its activities after being interrupted for political reasons related to the violation of human rights by the previous government. AID is an institution that handles very large funds for hemispheric cooperation under a system known as "non-reinbursable credits."

Paraguay received great benefit from the generous U.S. programs in the first years of the previous regime. Unfortunately these programs were gradually cut until they completely disappeared because of the human rights issue. Under current conditions there is nothing to justify maintaining that restriction and that is why the U.S. Government has decided to resume AID activities.

But there is still a conflictive point to be resolved: the return of Paraguay to the Generalized System of Preferences. This issue may be questioned by U.S. unions based on requests made by local unions. There are still some controversial points but they are not serious enough to justify maintaining the restrictions against Paraguay.

There is no reason why Paraguay should become stagnant in view of our labor situation because significant steps have been taken for the recognition of union organizations, for the right of unions to exert pressure, and for the general role that unions play in society. The disagreements that still prevail are related to the different interpretations of the potential range of union activities.

Therefore, this situation is unlikely to obstruct the U.S. review of the sanctions which left Paraguay out of the Generalized System of Preferences.

C.A. Vice Presidents Meet, Prepare for Summit

PA0906200890 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0704 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] Guatemala City, 9 Jun (EFE) — The vice presidents of Central America, with Panama as an observer, agreed last night in Guatemala to try to obtain technical and financial support to promote the establishment of the Central American parliament from the European Community (EC).

Guatemalan Vice President Roberto Carpio Nicolle said the EC plans to grant $48 million to this Central American political forum.

It had been announced during the one-day meeting that the vice presidents were going to agree on some points that would be discussed by the Central American presidents at the summit scheduled for 15-16 June in Guatemala. The final communique however, makes no mention of this. However, the vice presidents expressed satisfaction regarding the summit and said they are willing to assist in the efforts to coordinate the presidents' decisions.

The vice presidents have agreed to increase the number of meetings that they will hold in order to maximize efforts to promote Central American integration, direct international cooperation, and to modernize and restructure institutional patterns in the area.

The vice presidents have also agreed to continuously follow-up the Special Economic Cooperation Plan, which would provide approximately $3.5 billion in aid to Central America and to strengthen its implementation.

The vice presidents' document says that the ministers responsible for the Central American economic integration should meet to draft proposed policies to regulate foreign investments.

At the meeting, the vice presidents analyzed how to implement a plan to improve the access of Central American products to European markets. In addition,

they discussed the advantages of promoting efforts for scientific and technological training and cooperation in the isthmus. The vice presidents invited the Panamanian representative to continue participating in the upcoming meetings in the region.

Cuba

Havana Notes 'Positive Aspects' of Summit

FL0506130590 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Commentary by Lino Fernandez]

[Text] Good morning, dear television viewers. The just concluded U.S.-USSR summit has added new expectations because of the disagreements shown, in a world which is becoming more and more complex. Now we must reflect and analyze to reach conclusions. When we analyze the joint declarations and agreements signed by Gorbachev and Bush, they express good intentions but the documents are subject to mechanisms and interests before they can become a reality. This is why we agree with the opinion of the analysts who point out that the general outcome of the summit has positive aspects, basically for the two great powers, and is in accordance with the process which began 1985.

But the cold war is not completely over, as many specialists predicted at the end of the two leaders' meeting in Malta six months ago. Thus we can see that among the documents signed are those expressing the intention in the future to reduce nuclear and chemical strategic weapons, ensure the verification of agreements on limiting underground nuclear testing signed in the seventies, and push negotiations on space weapons and reductions of conventional weapons in Europe.

But how can this be fulfilled if the United States continues to have a very high military budget, is researching new types of more deadly weapons, and is carrying out rehearsals of nuclear war? Nothing is mentioned about this in the declarations. For many commentators, the Bush administration is trying to gain time, given the changes occurring in East Europe and its desire that the USSR follow that path.

In our reflections, another aspect that strongly draws our attention is the relegation of the problems of the Third World; they dealt only with regional tensions, according to what came out about the two leaders' private meeting at Camp David. The only thing known at present is that they discussed important international issues such as the Middle East, Afghanistan, South Africa, Cambodia, and Central America. It can be imagined that the well-known differing positions on these issues, explained at the time by the spokespersons of the two delegations, did not undergo great changes.

In sum, the U.S.-USSR summit gives rise to many questions that raise the expectations of humanity, which observes with concern the changes that are occurring in the world. In particular, the underdeveloped nations feel disappointed because their pressing problems have been passed over again. These problems are also factors that threaten international peace and security. Thank you for your attention.

Commission Reviewing Cooperation With USSR

PA0706203190 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0723 GMT 7 Jun 90

[Text] Havana, 7 Jun (EFE)—The joint Cuban-Soviet Commission for trade, economic, and scientific-technical cooperation is meeting in Havana this week to study the new requirements for cooperation over the next five years while taking into account the changes that the USSR has been undergoing to adopt a market economy.

The commission is mainly tasked with studying the foundations for cooperation over the next five years and is scheduled to hold several meetings in Havana and Moscow by spring 1991, according to official sources.

Yevgeniy Osadchuk, deputy chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, said that the world has undergone great changes, especially the USSR and the other East European countries, which are demanding changes in bilateral economic relations.

Trade between Cuba and the USSR is expected to reach 15 billion rubles (the same amount in dollars at the official exchange rate) during the next five-year period, which is 32 percent higher than the previous five-year period, according to official sources.

USSR's Katushev Visits Various Installations

FL0806024790 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Text] Soviet Foreign Economic Minister Konstantin Katushev visited Cienfuegos Province this afternoon where he toured installations of economic interest. Katushev is presiding over the Joint Cuba-USSR Commission for Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation.

Today, he visited the Juragua electronuclear center and the oil refinery in Cienfuegos Province. He was accompanied by Ernesto Melendez, president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, as well as other leaders of the Cuban and Soviet Governments and states. During his visit to Cienfuegos, Katushev received an extensive briefing on the timetable for the construction of these two projects, as well as a description of the main supplies needed to continue them.

[Begin Katushev recording in Russian with simultaneous Spanish translation] After seeing them, I am pleased at how quickly the Cuban workers and their Soviet colleagues have progressed in this construction. [Words indistinct] have been taken jointly have ensured the implementation of the oil refinery in Cienfuegos this year. They have also ensured the start of production, which is so important for the socialist [word indistinct]. It has to do with manufacturing oil products. I am satisfied with the pace of construction here. [end recording]

Meets With Vice President

FL0806231090 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2303 GMT 8 Jun 90

[From the "Exclusivo" program]

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, has met with Konstantin Katushev, Soviet Foreign Economic minister. Comrade Carlos Rafael Rodriguez and Katushev toured Varadero tourism installations where the visitor received a briefing on development plans for tourism in Varadero and throughout the country.

Optimistic About Cooperation

FL0906175390 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] I believe that during my stay here I have not only maintained the optimism with which I came, but my ideas have strengthened. I believe even more that the problems that were presented or could present themselves in the economic cooperation between our countries will be successfully solved. This was stated by Soviet Foreign Trade Minister Konstantin Katushev to the press as he ended his stay in Cuba last night.

Katushev toured with Commander in Chief Fidel Castro several health facilities and scientific institutions in this capital. Katushev added: I have confirmed with my own eyes that Cuba has accomplished good work during the last few years and has increased its economic capabilities, not only to satisfy better its domestic needs but also to broaden exports.

The Soviet minister headed his country's side of the joint commission that analyzed trade and cooperation with Cuba and signed, together with Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrisas, the protocol containing a summary of what was discussed during the working sessions. Referring to the document, Katushev said it is very important because it clearly reflects the two sides' position. He stressed: We are paving the road for more active cooperation.

A day before ending his stay in Cuba, Katushev met with Cuban Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez with whom he toured tourist facilities in Varadero. He was briefed on the tourism development plans at the blue beach and the entire country.

Signs Economic, Trade Protocol

FL0906005190 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] The delegation presided over by Soviet Foreign Economic Minister Konstantin Katushev returned to the USSR today. Moments prior to his departure, Katushev and Cuba Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrisas signed a protocol for the perfection of bilateral economic and trade ties.

During his stay in Cuba, and accompanied by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, Konstantin Katushev visited several health installations and scientific research centers. He also toured the thermoelectric [as heard] plant under construction in Cienfuegos Province.

USSR Official Cited on Relations With Havana

PA0606040090 Havana International Service in Spanish 0102 GMT 6 Jun 90

[Text] Andrey Gireshev, deputy head of the CPSU's International Department, said at the United Nations on Monday [4 June] that Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev had confirmed his stand regarding the Soviet Union's relations with Cuba. He pointed out that a direct dialogue between the island and the United States is the best way to accomplish detente between the two countries. According to Gireshev, Gorbachev expressed this view during his meeting with U.S. President George Bush at Camp David.

In a press conference, Gireshev said that during the Soviet-U.S. summit, the Soviet delegation, unmistakably alluding to relations with Cuba, clearly stated that the Soviet Union does not discuss with third parties its relations with other countries.

Commentary Defends Cuba-USSR Trade System

PA0606154290 Havana International Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Commentary by Ignacio Canel]

[Text] As far as the economy is concerned, we have had to do everything in Cuba, from building a national freeway, to rebuilding railroads and ports, to building new industries and world-renowned scientific centers.

However, we should not be boastful because everything has not been perfect. We have had defects and that is why along the way we have corrected, rectified, polished, and perfected our work.

If there is one thing Cubans must be given credit for, it is their ability to criticize their own mistakes.

These are the words of Luis A. Caldet Hernando, president of the Cuban Economists Association, and doctor of Economic Sciences. He is a professor at the University of Havana, with more than 30 years of professional experience.

Professor Caldet has noted that the main reason for what has been called the process of rectifying mistakes started over four years ago. This process entails correcting the negative aspects of models copied from other Socialist countries—negative aspects that have caused distorted views in some people.

As in past years, we have had to build a new country in Cuba; now with the latest events, especially in East

Europe, we must think seriously about finding a way to safeguard our achievements.

Professor Caldet comments on a topic often mentioned by the enemy and its followers in its quest to discredit the Cuban Revolution. This is the alleged USSR subsidy of Cuba, specifically in sugar prices.

The professor says that it is true that the USSR pays us a higher price for our sugar than the world market price. However, we should find out how much it costs the USSR and other East European countries to proudce a ton of sugar, and then analyze the price they are paying us.

We could ask those detractors of the Cuban Revolution why they do not comment on the fact that the United States forces consumers to pay more than one dollar for a kilogram of sugar to subsidize U.S. producers in a selfish protectionist policy that causes great economic harm to Third World countries. Why do not the detractors comment on the fact that the EEC strongly subsidizes all of its sugar producers and has a special agrarian policy that ruins the underdeveloped countries? Besides, why does the EEC have this policy to protect the producers of butter, milk, and beet sugar? It would be naive to expect them to answer these questions. Critics of USSR-Cuban relations either do not know or do not want to know.

The USSR pays us a fair, preferential price that is based on an equivalent trade, instead of the unfair and lion's share trade that the developed countries impose on the Third World countries.

Although the United States has preferential prices for some countries, it does so not as a benefit to them, but to assure their quotas. These prices are, therefore, a universal practice. Why then do detractors say that the prices the USSR pays Cuba are a subsidy?

We also pay the USSR preferential prices for oil. According to the enemy's way of thinking, then Cubans would be subsidizing the USSR. Or is it that we will always be measured with the short end of the stick?

This is the truth and no Yankee or toady can deny it.

Guantanamo Meeting on 'Special Period' Measures

FL0706205990 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1944 GMT 7 Jun 90

[Text] The people of Guantanamo are determined to apply all measures necessary to become self-sufficient in obtaining fundamental items under difficult circumstances. This was agreed upon at the meeting to study measures for a special period during peacetime, which concluded today in Guantanamo. The practical exercise, which began 4 June, dedicated more than 35 hours to analyzing experiences in the search for solutions to resist the most complex situations.

Raul Michel Vargas, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] in Guantanamo Province, gave the closing address at the meeting, which included the participation of leaders from the PCC, Union of Young Communists, government, mass organizations; and the principal chiefs of the Revolutionary Armed Forces and the Interior Ministry.

The participants toured the mountain areas of Guantanamo, Salvador, Yateras, and San Antonio del Sur Municipalities where conditions are being created to increase different types of production.

Government Does Not Recognize OAS Jurisdiction

PA1006233690 Havana International Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] Ramon Sanchez-Parodi, Cuban Foreign Relations Vice Minister, said in Havana that Cuba does not at all recognize OAS jurisdiction in analyzing its internal affairs because Cuba has been suspended from participating in the OAS. He said that the negative assessment of Cuba contained in the report approved in Asuncion, Paraguay by the OAS Legal and Political Affairs Commission is repetitive and is generally based on false information

Sanchez-Parodi said Cuba has proof that the data used to prepare these types of reports has been distorted and, in some cases, obtained from unreliable sources.

Vice Minister on Regional Forum, Role of OAS

PA0606154590 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Jun 90

[Interview with Vice Foreign Minister Raul Roa Kouri by Julio Dominguez; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Dominguez] Mr. Roa, in your special presentation during the seminar on Information for Peace in Latin America and the Caribbean which just ended, you said that a forum is necessary for our countries so we can meet to discuss area problems regarding the northern nations. I was thinking about the OAS for this forum. What do you think?

[Roa] The OAS could very well be the place for this forum. At this time, of course, it has other functions. We think there should be a forum concerning only Latin American political action. Just as there is the Latin American Economic System [SELA] for economic affairs, there should also be a forum for Latin American political affairs. However, the OAS, which should not be just for North-South related issues, could be the place for a forum on Latin American concerted action.

[Dominguez] Is this forum being organized?

[Roa] No, but several Latin American leaders, including Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez, Peruvian

President Alan Garcia, and other Latin American presidents have publicly expressed an interest in a strictly Latin American forum. Perhaps the OAS is no longer an appropriate organization for that Latin American concerted action.

[Dominguez] You attended the seminar of Information for Peace in Latin America and the Caribbean. What can you tell us about that seminar?

[Roa] It was an interesting seminar during which our countries' current problems were discussed. I believe that the representatives from the countries were important and high ranking. Renowned intellectuals and newsmen participated. Personally, it was a useful experience. Very timely questions were asked by Brazilians, Peruvians and other delegates. I think it was a very useful seminar for all of those who participated.

[Dominguez] Let us talk about the OAS again. At one time during your presentation you said that the OAS is not a suitable organization for Latin American concerted action. I would like you to expand on this a little more.

[Roa] I think it is quite simple. If one thinks, for example, of the forum for African political action, it is the Organization of African Unity. That organization is composed exclusively of African states. It does not include participants from other regions, much less, developed countries. I think that given this, real African political action can occur. In the OAS, as you know, countries from outside the region and which are not developing can participate. Countries like Canada; the United States, of course; and Spain, which should have a different role in its relations with Latin America. We are not, for instance, at the same development level. Therefore, the problems are not common. When I said that I did not consider the OAS to be a suitable forum, it was precisely because of that. I think there should be a forum for Latin American countries that have common problems. I do not mean to say that all the problems are the same. There are certain problems that are different in Latin America and the Caribbean. In general, however, we are developing countries. It is logical that in our relations with developing countries we would have different opinions. In other words, relations among developing countries are different than those between developing and developed countries. That is what I mean. We need a forum for developing countries, to discuss our problems among ourselves, to reach conclusions, and to adopt positions that we can discuss later with developing countries in a North-South dialogue.

Carlos Rafael Rodriguez Meets Mexican President

FL0906120890 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari has met with Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers of Cuba, in the official presidential residence of Los Pinos in the Mexican capital.

They examined Cuban-Mexican relations and the most [words indistinct] aspects of current affairs in Latin America and the world. Carlos Rafael Rodriguez explained to Salinas de Gortari the changes being experienced by Cuba in the struggle involving the rectification of mistakes [words indistinct] in our country.

The Cuban vice president also met with Mexican Foreign Secretary Fernando Solana.

Pedro Ross Meets With Song Ping in Beijing

FL0606213890 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1934 GMT 6 Jun 90

[Text] With a strong communist party, all difficulties can be overcome. This was stated by Chinese Communist Party leader Song Ping in Beijing upon receiving Pedro Ross, alternate member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba and secretary general of the Cuban Workers Federation, CTC. Song Ping said that his country places special importance on relations between the two countries' parties, mass organizations, and trade unions. He also praised Cuba's firm stance in pursuing the socialist road. Although many foresee the death of socialism, he stressed, the Caribbean island and China demonstrate the contrary. The member of the Political Bureau of the Chinese Communist Party said that his country anticipates with satisfaction a visit from Fidel and he asked Pedro Ross to convey greetings to the commander in chief from Chinese leaders Jiang Zemin and Li Peng.

Wan Li Receives Rene Rodriguez in Beijing

FL0206183790 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 2 Jun 90

[Text] Wan Li, chairman of the National People's Congress, said today in Beijing that the Cuban people, under the leadership of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC], will overthrow the U.S. imperialists' policy of force. Upon receiving at the Great Hall of the People, Rene Rodriguez, member of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the National Assembly of the People's Government, the Chinese leader stressed the importance of Chinese-Cuban relations in view of the current international situation.

Official Trade Talks With Romania Begin

FL0706011690 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2322 GMT 6 Jun 90

[From the "Exclusivo" program]

[Text] Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrisas today received his Romanian counterpart, Alexandru Magaritescu, thus beginning official bilateral talks on the revision of the 1990 trade agreement.

During the talks, Cabrisas gave a detailed briefing on the current situation, prospects for Cuba's economy, and the

development of foreign trade. For his part, Alexandru Magaritescu described the changes that are being introduced in his country under the current circumstances and Romania's basic objectives for the next few years.

URNG's Monsanto Comments on Madrid Talks

FL0706135090 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1153 GMT 7 Jun 90

[Interview with Pablo Monsanto, member of the General Command of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, URNG, by Roberto Agudo in Havana on 7 June—live]

[Text] [Agudo] Good morning, comrades. Well, there is some news from Central America that is really very important. Of course, we will inform you here of its importance: What is the situation in Guatemala? What is the result of the talks the rebels held with representatives of the major Guatemalan political parties in Madrid? This is of special interest because the press, basically the American press, and the European, have said in recent days that the Guatemalan rebels have made concessions, concessions of principle. We have taken advantage of the fact that Comrade Pablo Monsanto, a member of the URNG General Command, is in Havana. This organization has gathered together all Guatemalans who have opposed, politically and with weapons in hand, the military tyrannies and the pseudodemocracy. The real facts have been presented here now. Monsanto, I would like you to explain: Did you or did you not make concessions in Madrid?

[Monsanto] We believe that the results of talks between the political parties and the URNG General Command cannot be described as concessions. These results are positive for the Guatemalan people and in no way mean the abandonment of the principles nor the abandonment of the objectives of our struggle. The URNG is willing, as it has demonstrated for a long time, to participate in those processes that would permit a political solution to the nation's problems and to the internal armed conflict our country has been experiencing for more than 30 years.

[Agudo] Continuing on this point, Comrade Monsanto, does this mean then, that the Madrid agreement means peace, the end to hostilities, from the point of view of the armed struggle, or that it is the political solution to the conflict that has created grief in Guatemala in recent years?

[Monsanto] The El Escorial agreement is an agreement betweeen the political parties and us which establishes a number of commitments between them and us, but by no means can it be described as a peace treaty. This agreement contains a whole series of points that are extremely important. Among them is the need for institutional changes and changes in the Republic's constitution to improve functional and participative democracy and establish a democratic regime with independence and social justice.

[Agudo] Comrade Monsanto, according to the statistics that have been published, the struggle of the Guatemalan people has cost 100,000 lives in 30 years. I would like to ask you now, how does the Guatemalan guerrilla movement view this process of revision, and particularly what you just stated, that is, institutional reforms?

[Monsanto] We view institutional reforms as the possibility of finding a political solution to this conflict that has caused so much suffering for our people. This war was imposed on our people by the U.S. invasion in 1954, when a regime was imposed on Guatemala that basically served U.S. interests.

[Agudo] Yes, you wanted to add something more?

[Monsanto] Well, we believe that if these institutional changes occur, if these constitutional changes occur, we can change the current situation Guatemala is experiencing, and in a truly democratic process, all the sectors of the people will be able to decide the future of the nation.

[Agudo] One last question, and a brief answer, Comrade Monsanto. And the army? What do you think the role of the army—which has always been the factor used by the reactionaries against the people—should be in Guatemala?

[Monsanto] The army will not have any role except to accept the decisions of all the sectors of the Guatemalan people that are participating in this process. If it does not, there can be no solution to the internal armed conflict. If it is not resolved by political means, the war in Guatemala will have to continue.

[Agudo] Well, I think that the position of the URNG, of the Guatemalan combatant comrades, has been very clear for many years. Comrade Monsanto, I would just like to thank you for your courtesy. You have practically just arrived from Madrid. I do not know how long you are going to be here in Havana, and we are not going to tell the enemies that may be watching television outside the country. Thank you for coming here, and welcome to our country.

[Monsanto] We would like to thank you for having given us this opportunity and take the opportunity to greet the Cuban people, whom we admire and love so much.

[Agudo] Again, thank you very much.

Villa Clara Plenum Discusses Fourth PCC Congress

FL0706122090 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Jun 90

[Text] Vital aspects of society and Villa Clara Province were dealt with during the discussion of the call for the fourth Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] congress, held at the ninth plenary session of the party provincial committee in Villa Clara. Politburo member Jose Ramon Machado Ventura presided over the meeting, in which the (?men and women) of the province's political

and mass organizations were represented. During the meeting, they stressed the importance of the discussion process for the call for the fourth PCC congress in search of new work styles that will aid in consolidating socialism in our country.

Further on Villa Clara Plenum

FL0706190590 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Jun 90

[Text] The call for the fourth Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] congress was discussed during the ninth provincial plenum in Villa Clara yesterday. During the first part of the meeting, the participants discussed economic activities and the results of the rectification process in the province. The work on social and economic projects such as hydraulic and tourist project were specifically discussed. The delegates also discussed problems in agriculture, including sugarcane and other crops. During the second part of the meeting, the importance of organization as guiding force of society and the masses was discussed.

The assembly was presided over by Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, member of the PCC Politburo; and Tomas Cardenas Garcia, member of the PCC Central Committee and first secretary of the party in the territory.

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] I want to stress the absolute trust we have in Fidel, the Politburo, and the Central Committee. They are guiding us. They know what they are doing. They are doing what they have to do each time. I am absolutely certain about that. I also want to emphasize the need to change the situation in the countryside. We cannot continue to depend on the mobilization of the city to clean sugarcane fields. We cannot continue to depend on the mobilization of the city to plant sugarcane. We need to have a minimum of stable work force in the countryside. In my opinion, this means social development, it means housing, roads, and schools. It is not that we have not done this. We have worked on it. However, I believe we should have done a little more than what we have. [end recording]

Pinar del Rio Province Holds Special Plenum

FL0706020990 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Jun 90

[Excerpts] A special plenary meeting of the provincial committee of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] in Pinar del Rio has begun discussing and analyzing the call for the Fourth PCC Congress. The meeting was presided over by Fidel Ramos, member of the PCC Central Committee and first secretary of the PCC in the province. PCC Politburo members Jorge Risquet and Julio Camacho Aguilera also attended the meeting.

The first topic of discussion was the perfection of society by perfecting the party. Important speeches were made on this topic. [passage omitted]

In their speeches, the delegates vowed to continue eliminating deficiencies to overcome the defects that now harm us and to stimulate the creative thought of a party that belongs to the people, that has its roots in the people, as Julio Camacho Aguilera said in a brief statement.

[Begin Camacho Aguilera recording] This is the party of the Cuban people. How can the people feel that this is their party if we do not give them a part in selecting those who will become their vanguard? It is their party, the party of the Cuban people, and they have the right to say who is a vanguard member and who is not. It may not be done in the first manner, which was good, because the party was born with the people's views. The people decided who was and who was not worthy of being analyzed in the process. [end recording]

During the early part of the debates, that unanimity was criticized because it has not always been the best adviser for the agreements that have been reached.

Cienfuegos Party Committee Begins Plenary Session

FL0706114590 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Jun 90

[Report by Jorge Perez]

[Text] The party provincial plenum to discuss and analyze the call for the fourth party congress has begun in the theater of the Cienfuegos provincial government with the presence of Politburo member Julian Rizo Alvarez and Humberto Miguel Fernandez [Cienfuegos provincial committee member], as well as other members of the party and government. Early this morning, more than 280 delegates began the discussions, which have focused in this first phase on points concerning the economy, including inefficiency in transportation of merchandise, low prices to producers in some agricultural categories, and the lack of monitoring by the state of services provided privately.

Sancti Spiritus Committee Begins Plenum

FL0806173090 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Report by Gisela Bel Heredia]

[Text] Sancti Spritus today has joined the discussions of the document for the fourth Communist Party of Cuba congress, with the start of the extraordinary plenary session of the party provincial committee. The debates focus right now on points concerning improving our economy. Brigadier General Sergio Perez Lezcano, secretary of the Central Committee, is attending the meeting, which is also attended by more than 150 comrades, including representatives of the provincial committee and cadres and leaders of the party, the UJC [Union of Young Communists], the mass organizations, and important centers in Sancti Spiritus.

Provincial First Secretary Jorge Valdes Rodriguez is leading the debates, which primarily concern water resources management, the food program, and the minibrigades. The extraordinary plenary session also meets the goal of preparing the cadres for the later process of analyzing the document in the municipal organizations and base-level assemblies. The extraordinary party plenary session began its work shortly after 1000 hours [1400 GMT] here in Sancti Spiritus, and it is anticipated that it will conclude today, after completing the broad spectrum of the single point on the agenda: analysis of the fourth party congress document.

Risquet Chairs Matanzas Party Plenum

FL0806174590 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Report by Josefa Busi]

[Text] The extraordinary party plenary session in Matanzas to analyze the fourth party congress document began this morning at the (Jose Smith Goma) party school. The discussions of the morning session were focused on analyzing the problems that hinder economic efficiency, bureaucracy, savings of material resources, and care for people. Several presentations referred to the need for greater care for people, not only regarding wages at work, but food, living conditions, and providing more information about problems and limitations at the workplace.

We have interpreted from this analysis that Matanzas Province requires better organization of human resources to make the workforce an advance force of productivity. At the close of the broadcast of this news program, a delegation of sugar workers carried out an assault on the plenary session with the message that they had fulfilled the province's sugar production plan.

It is anticipated that this extraordinary plenum of the party in Matanzas will hold sessions today and tomorrow. On the agenda is an analysis of the structure of the different levels of the party, functioning and work style, and the improvement of the people's government and society as a whole, as well as cadre policy, etc. Politburo member Jorge Risquet Valdes is chairing this plenary session, along with Provincial First Secretary Luis Alvarez de la Nuez.

Party Plenum Debates Marked by 'Openness'

FL0706174090 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Jun 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] The party provincial plenary sessions are being held in the country to debate the call for the Communist Party of Cuba's fourth congress, the greatest national event. Vital issues of society and government, broad analyses of how to improve party work and structures, are views and opinions that are presented in depth and frankly.

But something more can be felt. In these debates now at the provincial level this week, at the level of the masses of the people, there is the desire and determination to discuss specifically our true situation. Criticism of false unanimity, of the absence of personal opinions and even disagreements that could enrich our work, is presented daily in these great plenary sessions, with spontaneous, mass participation. Frankness, sincerity and a truly critical spirit are more necessary than ever today, when the revolution has to stick together to confront true challenges in the political and economic arenas.

In addition, the debates in the plenary sessions are being held in a spirit of marked openness, frankness, and sincere dialogue. Outstanding workers, enterprise directors, heads of construction brigades, researchers, scientists, and ordinary workers are participating in the democratic order by invitation, but with their own voices. The language is simple, severe, daring, critical, and revolutionary.

Things must be called by their names. The double standard will have to be a vice of the past. Only with this style will we achieve the improvements in the party that we revolutionaries demand of the institution as society's guiding force, so that the party will be a better and better guide, so that it will win side-by-side with the masses, so that in the search for new styles, we can reaffirm socialism.

UJC To Hold Plenum To Discuss Party Congress

FL0906124090 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] The Union of Young Communists [UJC] National Committee will hold a plenum on 15 June to discuss the call for the fourth party congress. The main goal of the meeting will be to turn it into a call to all young people to analyze national problems.

Roberto Robaina, alternate member of the Communist Party of Cuba Politburo and first secretary of the UJC, said on the Isle of Youth that they will focus on concrete problems, mistakes, and deficiencies to contribute to the perfecting of the socialism we have chosen and are building.

Lezcano Speaks at TV Correspondents Meeting

FL0906010290 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Excerpt] The work of the revolution these past 30 years, the results of the rectification process, and the role of the press were some of the topics discussed by Jorge Lezcano, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba in Havana City Province, in a special speech he gave at the national meeting of Cuban television correspondents.

[Begin Lezcano recording] Criticism is an irreplaceable factor. It is an irreplaceable tool of socialism. It is more necessary under the conditions of a single party system such as ours. Based on that assessment, we call on our journalists to fulfill their obligation of criticizing those things that are done poorly; to stress the insufficiencies, the deficiencies; and to call attention to the problems that cannot be seen any other way, from any other angle. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Lawyers Meet To Discuss Radio, TV Aggression

FL0706023890 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Jun 90

[Text] A scientific-technical event for lawyers on the topics of radio and television aggression and authors' rights has been held in Havana. The meeting was organized by the ICRT [Cuban Institute of Radio and Television] and the National Union of Cuban Lawyers.

[Begin recording] [Reporter Rosalia Arnaez, in progress] "...by Dr. Carlos Fernandez Vallesteros, director of the Division of Developing Countries of the World Organization of Intellectual Property, and Dr. (Ulrich Ustenat) of the same organization. They said that regulations are now being drafted for new laws because the accelerated development of communications and transmissions by cable and satellite makes it necessary to protect one's work from any kind of piracy.

The topic of radio and television aggression was also discussed at this event.

From a legal point of view, what has Cuba done?

[Attorney Manuel Yanez, member of the Cuban International Law Society] First, Cuba has been the object of an act of aggression against our airspace, specifically, the radio spectrum. This can be understood more easily when one thinks of an airplane that violates our airspace, but a radio-electric frequency cannot be seen. It invades our territory, our airspace, and violates international treaties that regulate this activity. The international community has made itself very clear on this. This matter has been analyzed not just by Cuba, but by many countries, organizations, and people who have a lot of common sense about life. I think that the way the situation of radio aggression against our country has been analyzed has been done in a good [word indistinct]. [end recording]

Oil Workers Set Record in Well Drilling

FL0506121090 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Text] Oil workers throughout the country have broken the monthly record for well drilling, obtaining 14,278 meters with three machines less than last month. The previous record was set in October last year, when they drilled 13,553 meters. This is a symptom of recovery after a shortfall because of breakdowns at the Western Oil Drilling and Extraction Enterprise. The problems have been eliminated and the oil workers' production in this part of the nation's territory is progressing well.

Inter-Caribbean Affairs

Money-Laundering Conference Opens in Aruba

FL0906132590 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1230 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] Aruban Prime Minister Nelson Oduber has opened an international conference on combating money laundering. The Aruban leader pointed on the danger of the drug trade to countries in the Caribbean. He said dealers are able to purchase power with their huge profits. Nearly 20 Caribbean countries are participating in the conference.

Caricom 'Pleased' With Haitian Preparations

FL0606234390 Bridgetown CANA in English 2258 GMT 6 Jun 90

[Text] Castries, St. Lucia, June 6, CANA—St. Lucia's minister for foreign affairs, Neville Cenac, has said he is pleased with the conduct of the interim government of Haiti in its preparations for general elections and with the general running of the country.

Cenac was speaking to CANA on his return from a one-week visit to the Caribbean nation, as a member of a Caribbean Community (Caricom) ministerial team which undertook its second visit to assess the electoral reforms taking place there. The team also comprised the foreign ministers of Jamaica, Trinidad, and Bahamas and a representative of the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. They held discussions with the interim president, the head of the armed forces, the Provisional Electoral Council, and several other persons interested in the affairs of Haiti, including several ambassadors.

Cenac said it was clear that there has now been a separation of power between the military and the civilian administration. "This was evident by the fact that on this occasion, the Caricom delegation was met on arrival by Foreign Ministry personnel and not the military", he said.

"It has been said to us that in so far as the security of the persons is concerned during the election, as long as the military is prepared to work with the civilian administration, then the country would be fairly peaceful and there would be no need for fear", Cenac added.

The foreign minister said he found that the general atmosphere in Haiti was no longer tense as it was in August last year. Neither were persons anxious to replace the interim administration, he said.

"It was heartening to know that the head of the armed forces is not interested in holding on to power as others have, and the interim president has herself said that she does not intend to hold on to power for more than six

months. This is a very good sign that there is no competition at the top for president," Cenac noted.

Cenac said it was agreed that Caricom would assist with providing equipment to support the electoral process, and that international observers would be allowed to be present at the elections. It was also agreed that foreign assistance would be coordinated by the OAS, the United Nations, and Caricom, he said. In addition, Caricom will sponsor a resolution calling for an international conference for the reconstruction of Haiti when the United Nations meets for its 45th General Assembly later this year.

The minister said the delegation was not given an exact date for the forthcoming elections, but it is expected they will be held between October and November this year. Cenac said that he was impressed with the work of the Provisional Electoral Council which he said appeared confident of finding funds to sponsor the elections.

"When we last visited, the council appeared to be broke and in dire need of money but on this occasion, their behaviour suggested that they know where the funds were coming from," he said. "In fact, they are only asking Caricom for moral aid in making a case for them in the international fora."

Antigua and Barbuda

Minister Accuses Lester Bird of Corruption

FL2505221090 Bridgetown CANA in English 2110 GMT 25 May 90

[Text] St. John's, Antigua, May 25, CANA—Education minister, Reuben Harris has called for a cleansing and purging of the Antigua and Barbuda Government, singling out foreign minister, Lester Bird for severe criticism. Harris accused the foreign minister of being corrupt, and described him as being no better that his older brother Vere Bird Jr., who is at the centre of a judicial inquiry into an international arms scandal.

Bird Jr. has denied involvement in the transshipment of arms through Antigua that ended up in the hands of Colombian drug dealers and Lester Bird has on a number of occasions rejected opposition claims of wrong-doing.

Addressing his constituents Thursday [24 May], Harris called on Lester Bird to made public all transactions relating to the construction and progess of the Royal Antiguan Hotel at Deep Bay on the island's west coast, and the heritage quay duty free shopping complex in St. John's. The Royal Antiguan Hotel is being managed by Ramada Renaissance and controlled by a government statutory body, Deep Development Company, while the Heritage Quay is in the hands of another government body, the St. John's Development Corporation. Harris charged that Bird must say whether he or anyone closely associated with him has been authorised to do any kind of business with both establishments. "As much as what Lester Bird has done and is doing, (if) any other member of cabinet other than a Bird had done these things, he would have been dismissed," said Harris.

The education minister told members of his constituency that all the power in the country does not belong to any one family, declaring that "the time is coming when the leadership of the Antigua Labour Party will change. "After V.C. (Prime Minister Vere Cornwall Bird) there should not be any more Birds," Harris said. "V.C. Bird has done and played his part for the development of this country. Let us not despise this. Let us not reject the good he has done. He has made mistakes like the rest of us. The mistakes he has made are due to his children. His eyes are clouded because he can't (do) without his children," Harris charged.

The education minister complained that "because of uprightness and because of what I stand for, Lester Bird and his acolytes have already earmarked candidates to run against me in the next election in this constituency. You may hear I'm fired, but I will live," he delcared.

Cabinet Retreat Termed 'Extremely Successful'

FL0806171290 Bridgetown CANA in English 1620 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Text] St. John's, Antigua, June 8, CANA—The Antigua and Barbuda cabinet has agreed to establish a special committee charged with examining grievances among government ministers, a statement from the office of the prime minister said. The decision was taken Thursday [7 June] at a special one-day retreat, convened to heal longstanding rifts within the government. The meeting, which lasted six hours, was held at the Jumby Bay Resort on Long Island off the country's north coast.

The statement from the prime minister's office, describing the meeting as "extremely successful", said it was intended mainly "to give members of the cabinet an opportunity to speak frankly and freely...." about their concerns. The committee, after dealing with any issue facing the cabinet, will submit recommendations to Prime Minister Vere Bird Sr. Members of the committee were not named. The meeting also mandated the attorney general to draft integrity and ethics legislation for introduction in Parliament as soon as possible.

According to the statement, "the retreat also reinforced the view that the question of succession is premature as the prime minister intends to serve his full term."

"The mechanism for succession within the ruling Antigua Labour Party (ALP) is clearly defined and members agreed to abide by that procedure at the relevant time," the statement added.

The question of who would succeed Prime Minister Bird, who is in his eighties, has been an underlying factor in much of the bickering that has plagued the Antigua Government in recent years.

Haiti

Delegation Says Election Climate Propitious

FL0506124390 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Excerpt] The members of the Canadian delegation that has been visiting Haiti since 30 May held a news conference at the Montana Hotel over the weekend to present a balance sheet of their visit to Haiti. The delegation said the climate is favorable for the holding of elections in Haiti. This is not how things were in 1987, said the delegation during its news conference.

The delegation, which came to Haiti to ascertain the political situation, talked to Haitian President Ertha Pascal Trouillot; the members of the State Council; General Herard Abraham, commander in chief of the Haitian Armed Forces; political leaders; and Canadian Government representatives in Haiti. These meetings took place within the framework of an ongoing political process and permitted the members of the Canadian mission to get an idea of how the coming elections in Haiti are going to be held.

Canadian Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of National Defense Jean Guy Hudon, who was heading this four-member delegation, said his government will act as a spokesman at international organizations such as the OAS and the United Nations, with a view toward a better understanding of the situation here in Haiti. Hudon also announced that Canada is ready to provide the CEP, Provisional Electoral Council, with aid for organization of the coming elections. Hudon also pointed out that the Haitian Government has not yet made any specific request for aid. It has made only a general request for aid.

Hudon, who is on his third visit to Haiti, said he noted a general mobilization by all Haitians. He interprets this as meaning that many things have changed in this country.

Regarding the problem of insecurity, Hudon said he met with Army chief Lieutenant General Herard Abraham who showed his desire to set up the proper structures and take the proper measures to allow normal order and security on the occasion of the coming elections.

The members of the Canadian delegation returned home on Saturday [2 June] after a three-day visit to Port-au-Prince on the occasion of the coming elections, which will be held very soon in Haiti. [passage omitted]

Further on 7 Jun CEP News Conference

FL0806193890 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Excerpts] The Provisional Electoral Council [CEP] held a news conference at its headquarters yesterday morning in which it said that elections would be held in Haiti by next September at the latest, and that the electoral law and calendar would be made public in two or three days. [passage omitted]

[Begin CEP President Jean-Robert Sabalat recording] [passage omitted] We are not soothsayers. We cannot know for sure to what extent security will be guaranteed by the competent authorities. However, believe me, as far as we are concerned we will do our best to obtain their guarantee, very clearly. [end recording]

Regarding an electoral police force, the CEP members said they are going to study the matter, however, what is clear for now is that there is no question of any international force's coming to Haiti to provide security during the elections.

According to its members, the CEP is independent. They do not take orders from anyone. They are doing their work cleanly, impartially.

In answer to the question of whether or not there was any possibility of the president-elect's being sworn in before 7 February as stipulated in the Constitution, CEP President Sabalat answered: We are in a special situation; we will seek a special solution.

The CEP also announced they will put into the electoral law some articles aimed at preventing an overabundance of candidates from running in the elections.

According to Mr. Sabalat, Mr. Pierre Gonzales [the executive's representative on the CEP], who was not at the speakers' table, has not resigned for they have received no letter of resignation from him nor has he informed anyone that he has resigned.

[Begin Sabalat recording] [passage omitted] I confirm what I said earlier, that is, that Mr. Gonzales has never sent us a letter of resignation. [passage omitted] I talked to the executive to find out if Mr. Gonzales had submitted his resignation to the executive without our knowledge. The executive was categoric about the matter: Mr. Gonzales has not resigned. [end recording] [passage omitted]

At the end of the news conference, Emmanuel Ambroise, in answer to a question regarding his and Philippe Jules' departure from the CEP allegedly requested by Daniel Narcisse, said that when one is on the CEP, it is normal for some people to be against one's presence. However, 1.4 million Haitian voters trusted him in 1987; that is why he is on the council today. Ambroise added that he has no scores to settle with anyone, and that he met up with Daniel Narcisse, leader of the Liaison Committee of the Democratic Forces, by accident.

Capital's Mayor Condemns 'Thugs and Hoodlums'

FL0406161090 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Excerpts] How are things at Port-au-Prince City Hall? A press release dated 4 June and signed by Irene Ridore,

president of the communal committee of Port-au-Prince, thanks the population and the neighborhood committees, which continue to support the cleanup policy city hall is implementing to lay proper foundations within the public administration.

Port-au-Prince City Hall informs the population that during the acts of terror committed by red-armband-wearing-type thugs and hoodlums [brasa wouj ak zenglendo, an allusion to the perpetrators of the 11 September 1988 St. Jean Bosco Church killings] in the area surrounding city hall on 31 May and 1 June, several members of organizations and honest employees who were coming to work were attacked. [passage omitted]

City hall takes this opportunity to condemn the maneuvering of these red-armband-wearing-type thugs and hoodlums who are ready to shut down the marketplace, beat the vendors, and scatter their merchandise, as well as cause a fuss at the cemetery because of the war city hall has declared against zombies [a reference to checks made out to nonexistent employees], people who do not come to work, and pillagers who are being paid the state's money improperly.

Port-au-Prince City Hall asks all vendors and all staunch patriots to be vigilant because big bucks have been paid out by the former head of the red-armband-wearing thugs in the Dominican Republic to try to block the efforts being made.

This press release is signed by Irene Ridore.

Trinidad and Tobago

Politicians Focus on Drugs, Money Laundering

FL0706214790 Bridgetown CANA in English 2031 GMT 7 Jun 90

[Report by Debra Ransome]

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, June 7, CANA—Drug mafias, hitmen, money laundering—this has been the stuff of newspaper headlines in Trinidad and Tobago in recent weeks.

The talk of money laundering came when a national anti-drug task force held a conference at which a local banker revealed that his company had turned away depositors with large sums of money who had been regarded with some suspicion. Republic Bank executive Victor Mouttet said he knew such depositors had simply gone to other banks here. The comments sparked a front-page debate about the revelations of possible money-laundering in Trinidad and Tobago. This was followed by news of increasingly violent clashes between those operating in the twilight zone of the illegal drug scene.

Late May, police reported the execution-styled killings by "hitmen" of two people with drug cases pending against them. Two men in East Port of Spain—Altheus "Pepe Jo" Frank and Sterling Gomez—were killed in separate incidents.

Frank, the owner of a Port of Spain bar with several drug cases pending against him, was shot in his yard while watching television. The police said a gunman showed up, fired, and ran off.

In the second incident, Gomez was called outside of his home, where he argued with, and was shot by, three men.

On top of this, South Trinidad police began to talk of a drug mafia which stood a chance of becoming a "mini-Medellin (cartel)" if the Police Narcotics Bureau was not allowed to strengthen its presence in the area.

Colombia's powerful Medellin drug cartel has launched a campaign of terror against the government there. Several prominent persons, including government officials, have been assassinated.

"There are a lot of drugs selling all over San Fernando, mainly marijuana and cocaine, but we do not have the manpower and equipment to keep the dealers on the run," one police officer was quoted by the GUARDIAN newspaper here as saying.

San Fernando's deputy major, Allen Sammy, told city councillors of the need for upgrading the police desk in South Trinidad. Making an appeal for government to do something about the drug scene, Sammy related tales of a whole city succumbing to drugs and even named the streets where cocaine "rocks" were openly on sale at TT20 dollars (one TT dollar: 23.5 U.S. cents) each. According to Sammy, in his area of Carlton Lane, gunshots were heard almost every night with the new Southern mafia virtually controlling some districts. Sammy said he had been informed by police of traffickers buying counterfeit money from Colombia.

However, senior Southern officers told CANA that the situation was not as bad as the politicians have claimed and, in fact, that many of the drug lords have actually been leaving the country in recent times with the drug-related crime scene on the decline. "I don't think we reached that stage as yet," one senior Southern officer told CANA.

Add to this, Mouttet's comments about the alleged growth of money laundering in Trinidad and Tobago.

However, a check by the local press indicated many bankers denying that their companies had been involved in such activity and even pointing out that customers' accounts had been closed when they were known to be involved in money-laundering. Many of the bankers contacted in a GUARDIAN poll indicated that their staff had been given training and warnings on what to look for in accepting large deposits and strange transactions.

The growing reports came as the government prepared to lay its narcotics and psychotrophic substances bill in the

senate. The bill died last summer when there was a public outcry over the extent of its measures to get access to the profits of drug trafficking and the powers it gave to local police became the target of human rights activists and many other critics. The bill has been sent to a joint parliamentary committee for amendments.

National Security Minister Selwyn Richardson, had also been pushing for public acceptance of the idea of wire-tapping for phones which he says is one of the few ways to establish a link between drug mules and the real drug lords. Richardson told CANA that he hoped for passage of the narcotics bill by the end of June while government could then seek to frame new legislation around powers such as wire-tapping.

The advent of debate also caused opposition leader Patrick Manning, to call for a three-party discussion on an anti-drug programme. Opposition leader Patrick Manning stated in a May 28 letter to Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson that the only way to deal decisively with the illegal drug scene would be through a joint effort. However, Manning indicated his party's reservations about any legislation which would touch the constitutional right to privacy.

The question which many people have been asking is whether there is a real increase in drug-related crime, whether it's been more reported on, or whether the drug mafia here is taking on a new sophisticated face.

"The fact is, it has been prevalent for a long time... It came in with the oil boom in the mid 70s and 80s and I don't think there has been an increase but there's been no decrease." Richardson told CANA.

Richardson said the approach of fighting the drug trade on all levels was now beginning to pay off. A special naval force, pooling the naval resources of the police, the army, and the coastguard has been conducting regular patrols. In May, a pirogue with three Venezuelans and a Colombian and a small amount of cocaine was held. Only one arrest was finally made, the Police Narcotics Squad reported, but the naval force had begun to make its mark known in the gulf waters.

According to Richardson, one of the approaches has been to "cut off" the South American sea link. Also, resources on land have been upgraded with the police force receiving new equipment, new cars, and new officers in recent times.

As for the South Trinidad problem, the minister says he agreed with the calls for more effective controls and that steps were being taken to beef up the force there. "We have to take action on all fronts," Richardson said.

Costa Rica

Legislative Assembly Approves Special Budget

PA0906010490 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 30 May 90 p 6A

[Report by Armando Mayorga]

[Text] The Legislative Assembly's Financial Affairs Commission yesterday approved this year's first special budget for 1.970 billion colons.

It will be used to finance benefits won from a favorable ruling by employees of the Agriculture and Livestock Ministry (MAG), salary increases for teachers, a readjustment of pensions, and 345 million colons in specific allotments requested by ruling party deputies.

The commission's vote was not unanimous. The eight congressmen of the Social Christian Unity Party (PUSC) voted for it, and the three of the National Liberation Party (PLN) voted against it.

Alejandro Soto Zuniga, deputy chief of the opposition bloc, claimed that the original budget submitted on 7 May by the Arias administration was 1.625 billion colons, but the PUSC bloc inflated it by 345 million colons to include specific allotments. He opposed the budget because it involves funds that congressmen of the previous regime already committed to certain communities.

Meanwhile, the Economic Affairs Commission yesterday unanimously approved an Inter-American Development Bank loan for the Costa Rican Electricity Institute (ICE) for $182.8 million (16.269 billion colons) to build electricity generating stations, said William Munoz Cespedes, commission president and PUSC deputy.

As a complement, the government will contribute $81.2 million (7.226 billion colons) to build Toro 1 (Sarchi) and Toro 2 (Valverde Vega) plants and the second phase of the Miravalles geothermical project, as well as the expansion of several regional substations.

Within the budget approved yesterday, all deputies of the finance commission, except for PUSC Deputy Rafael Sanabria Solano, approved two motions submitted by Congressman Jorge Rodriguez Araya, of the Cartago Agricultural Union, that were described as controversial.

One of them will allot 10,000 colons to finance the studies of a Cartago youth at the Calasanz School in San Jose, and the other will transfer 50,000 colons from the Cartago Cultural House to a handicapped man in Orosi. Sanabria Solano argued that help from the said school and social welfare institutions should have been sought in both cases. Commission president Roberto Tovar Faja said that he will request a study on them.

A plenary meeting held yesterday approved in first debate the Law for the Promotion of Scientific and Technological Development.

Letter of Intent Signed for $53-Million Loan

PA1006181290 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Text] President Rafael Angel Calderon has announced that the government has tentatively reached an agreement with the IMF by signing a letter of intent. This letter was signed after the IMF mission's two-week stay in Costa Rica and is subject to review by the manager and board of directors.

The president said that after the letter of intent is approved, Costa Rica is expected to sign an agreement with the IMF in mid-August.

The IMF will grant Costa Rica at least $53 million this year and a similar amount in 1991, following the signing of a stand-by agreement. This will allow both the IMF and the Japanese Government to grant $45-million loans to Costa Rica. President Rafael Angel Calderon said that the funds received from the agreement with the IMF will be used to pay the stop-gap loans granted by Venezuela and Mexico to buy back the foreign debt.

El Salvador

Reportage on President Cristiani's Visit to Mexico

Cristiani Signs Various Agreements

PA0906191490 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 8 Jun 90 p 3

[Text] Yesterday President Alfredo Cristiani and Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari signed various agreements that will strengthen the friendship and commercial ties between El Salvador and Mexico. President Cristiani is on an official visit to Mexico.

The signing of those agreements will contribute to further development in those sectors where there is special interest in increasing cooperation levels.

Agreements were signed in the areas of trade, Mexican investments, education, and culture.

Regarding Mexican investments, an agreement was signed to promote operations to exchange debts for assets through which Mexican businessmen will be encouraged to invest in Salvadoran national enterprises currently in the process of being privatized.

In education and culture, an agreement was signed for the preservation and restoration of archeological, artistical, and historical monuments.

In the energy field, an agreement was signed to increase oil quotas for El Salvador. Both countries will also exchange information on tourism.

Last night both presidents exchanged decorations that will strengthen the traditional relations between the people and governments of El Salvador and Mexico even more.

Cristiani Assesses Trip

PA0906203990 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1909 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] Mexico City, 9 Jun (DPA)—Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani said today in Mexico City that the Salvadoran Army, "almost in its entirety," supports the negotiation process with the guerrillas to find a peaceful solution to the armed conflict that has been raging in his country for the past 10 years. "From an institutional standpoint, there is no problem regarding the Armed Forces' support for the peace process," the president said during a news conference held shortly before returning to El Salvador, following a three-day visit to Mexico.

Cristiani said once a peace agreement is reached allowing the guerrillas to rejoin civilian society, his government will reduce the number of Armed Forces members, which now is made up of 54,000 soldiers, he noted. When this moment comes, he said, he will also ask the United States to change its military assistance ($80 million of a yearly total of $300 million, according to Cristiani) to help the country's social and economic reconstruction. When asked about the possibilities of a peace agreement in the immediate future, the Salvadoran president said the process of negotiations that began on 4 April in Geneva, Switzerland, "is structured very well," and "is more solid than the previous one."

That is why "we are optimistic and hope to reach an agreement to end the military confrontation before mid September," Cristiani remarked, regarding the deadline for a definite cease-fire established in the agreements reached in the last meeting between the government and the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN), held in Caracas in mid May.

The Salvadoran president also noted that during his conversations with Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari he mentioned that it would be advisable if Mexico would serve as a channel of communications between El Salvador and Cuba, a country Cristiani again accused of being directly involved in Central America's conflicts. He explained that because San Salvador and Havana have no diplomatic relations, Mexico could intercede with Fidel Castro's government to ask him to "end Cuba's support for violent plans," in Central America and, in particular, in El Salvador.

Cristiani reiterated remarks made yesterday that "changing attitudes" could be noticed lately in the Castro government, suggesting the Cuba may be willing to support El Salvador's peace process. On the results of his visit to Mexico, the president said "a higher level of understanding" between the Mexican and Salvadoran governments was achieved, and that the two sides voiced their political commitment to continue improving and strengthening bilateral relations.

Referring to the cooperation agreements the two governments signed, Cristiani noted the arrangement to pay El Salvador's debt with Mexico, which entails exchanging $32 million El Salvador owes Mexico for Salvadoran assests to promote Mexican investments in that country's economy. He also mentioned El Salvador's request that Mexico and Venezuela increase their daily quota of oil to that country from 8,000 to 12,000 barrels assigned within the framework of the regional program on energy cooperation, known as the San Jose Pact.

Investigation Continues in Jesuit Murder Case

Benavides Said To Admit Responsibility

PA0806153790 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1214 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Text] Colonel Guillermo Benavides, former director of the Salvadoran Military Academy, has admitted his responsibility in the murder of six Jesuit priests, according to a deposition taken by U.S. Military Adviser Major Erick Buckland, stationed in El Salvador. According to the U.S. major's deposition, Col. Benavides has admitted his responsibility in the assassination of the Jesuits, who were shot by machine gun at the Central American University with their two maids at daybreak on 16 November.

According to judicial sources, Buckland has said that he learned that Benavides had revealed this secret to another officer on 20 December 1989, a month after the assassinations and almost a month before President Alfredo Cristiani openly admitted that some soldiers were involved in the crime.

Buckland said according to Col. Carlos Aviles, Col. Ivan Lopez told Lieutenant Colonel Manuel Rivas, chief of the Special Investigations police investigating this crime, that Benavides had admitted to Rivas his responsibility in the case. In his deposition, Buckland added that Aviles had told him that no one else knew about this information, and that it was possible that Col. Rene Emilio Ponce, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, knew about the information.

The deposition adds that Aviles had met briefly with Col. Benavides at the military academy, and it seemed that Benavides was losing weight because he was not eating and he was worried. Col. Aviles did not respond to Judge Ricardo Zamora's summons, requesting that he make a statement yesterday. According to military reports, Col. Aviles is attending a military course in Taiwan. Therefore, he will be summoned again, official sources have reported.

Fourth Penal Court Judge Zamora, who is in charge of this case, questioned Lieutenant Josie Rene Mendoza on 6 June, one of the nine soldiers involved in the murders. Mendoza, who is 26, confirmed that he had burned 60 books used in 1989 on orders from Major Carlos Hernandez, deputy director of the San Salvador Military Academy. Hernandez was promoted to lieutenant colonel in mid-December 1989. Mendoza said in 1987, when Colonel Edgardo Casanovas was the academy

director, the military academy bought computer equipment to register information contained in the books. Therefore, instructions were issued to burn unimportant books at the end of the military academy's school year.

Juan Rene Arana, records keeper at the military academy has said that Maj. Hernandez had verbally instructed him to set aside books on new military developments, check-in and check-out books, reports books, and books on the entrance of troops and administrative personnel records because they were going to be burned. Arana added that in the past five years, he had never been ordered to set aside books to be burned.

Communique Issued

PA0806233990 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 5 Jun 90 p 3

[All quotation marks as published]

[Text] Judicial sources have reported that two of the four soldiers who were on guard duty at the military academy on the night the Jesuit priests were killed have been summoned to give testimony at the Fourth Penal Court.

It has also been reported that Salvadoran Army military adviser Erick Buckland is the U.S. major who testified yesterday at this court.

The Supreme Court has issued a communique on the most recent proceedings at the trial of the massacre of the Jesuits, which reads:

"Fourth Penal Court Judge Dr. Ricardo Zamora received a deposition today from a U.S. major involved in the Jesuits case. He also received depositions, as witnesses, from a Salvadoran Army captain and the military academy records keeper.

"Records keeper Juan Rene Arana Aguilar confirmed that he received an order from Major Carlos Camilo Hernandez (now a lieutenant colonel), former deputy director of the military academy, to "set aside the 1989 control books on the arrivals and departures registry of military chiefs, officers, and noncommissioned officers because the books were going to be burned," one of the prosecutors in this case reported.

"Prosecutor Edward Sidney Blanco Reyes told the media that, according to the witness, "he has been working for a long time at the military academy, and it is not a routine procedure to burn the books. This is the first time he received this kind of order.

"Blanco added that, according to the witness, between 1 and 16 December—he does not recall the date—Lieutenant Yusshy Rene Mendoza and four unidentified cadets arrived at the military academy and removed about 60 books. However, the witness said, he cannot confirm whether or not the soldiers burned the books.

"Judge Zamora had requested the military academy to supply the registry books for 15 and 16 November to determine who had participated in the operation on 16 November that resulted in the assassination of the six Jesuit priests, a maid, and her daughter at the Central American University.

"The witness strongly maintained that he received orders from Maj. Hernandez to set aside the books that were going to be burned. The prosecutor said that if the witness' statements are true, then the books were burned following orders from Maj. Hernandez, and that by December 1989 there were already indications that military academy members were suspected of participating in the crime.

"Judge Zamora announced that he will summon Lt. Col. Hernandez to testify as a witness. He added that he will also summon Lt. Mendoza, currently under arrest as one of the main suspects in the crime, to expand his deposition.

"The prosecutors reported that Captain David Koch Arana said he was a Defense Ministry paymaster at the military academy and therefore was not involved in this crime.

"Judge Zamora also reported that he has received a deposition from the U.S. major who, shortly after the priests had been slain, knew about those who were involved in the crime. Zamora said he has ordered a translation of the U.S. officer's deposition that should be added to the indictment. The U.S. major's name has been mentioned in a U.S. Congressional report on the Jesuits case.

"Zamora said that he has also summoned Colonel Carlos Armando Aviles to testify because Aviles also knew those who were involved in the crime. According to unofficial reports, Aviles is currently in Taiwan.

"Judge Zamora added that he has summoned four soldiers who were on guard duty the night the Jesuits were killed to testify. The soldiers who have been summoned are: Elio Ernesto Munguia, Walter Danilo Merno, Gilberto Vanegas Zepeda, and Normal Gilmar Larrama.

"Munguia has been discharged from the 1st Infantry Brigade, Merino and Larrama from the military academy, and Vanegas from Military Detachment No. 6."

Burning of Book Evidence Condemned

PA0906030590 San Salvador Canal Seis Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Italics indicate recorded passages]

[Text] The defense minister and the commander of the Air Force have condemned the destruction of the check-out books at the military academy, which are regarded as key evidence in the investigation of the murder of the Jesuit priests. The two generals expressed their hopes that justice will prevail soon.

The two highest-ranking officers in our country's Armed Forces said today that it is not usual procedure for a military institution to destroy the check-out books, as happened at the military academy where the soldiers involved in the Jesuits' murder had been.

Defense Minister General Humberto Larios said that military procedure calls for destroying some documents, but not in such a short time.

[Larios] *It is normal, but only in the sense that books are kept on file for a certain time. Books considered as secondary or routine obviously must be destroyed after a specific period of time. This is done with unimportant documents, but only after a certain time.*

[Reporter] *Is this a normal procedure?*

[Larios] *I believe that we could really say this was not normal. We are investigating to determine the reasons for anyone ordering the burning of these documents.*

Meanwhile, General Rafael Villamariona, commander of the Air Force, was more explicit on this point. He said that it was a serious act concerning key evidence in the case of the Jesuits.

[Villamariona] *You will have to get that information from higher authorities. However, I believe that this was neither professional nor correct.*

General Villmariona said that while the nine military suspects in the case are not tried, they will continue to be just that—plain suspects.

[Villamariona] *Bear in mind that a person is innocent until proven guilty. That is why the Armed Forces is bent on having an open and precise investigation and conducting it until the end.*

Yesterday at the Fourth Penal Court, which is hearing the Jesuits' case, one of the main suspects, Lieutenant Mendoza, said during his testimony that the burning of the military school check-out books is a routine procedure.

Archbishop Rivera y Damas Discusses Violence

PA1006223390 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1933 GMT 10 Jun 90

[Text] San Salvador, 10 Jun (NOTIMEX)—San Salvador Archbishop Arturo Rivera y Damas today issued an urgent appeal to "stop the increase of violence" throughout the country. He condemned the "impunity" of the Armed Forces.

The prelate delivered a statement following his traditional Sunday homily. He harshly condemned "the methods" used by the Army against political prisoners and the recent discovery of corpses that had signs of being tortured.

"There has been an increase in violence that must be stopped to prevent it from sweeping aside everything in its path," he said.

The archbishop denounced the torture that took place last week in one of the security corps' barracks in the capital. Spanish citizen Carlos Gonzalez Perez was tortured and is currently in a medical center in San Jose, Costa Rica.

Rivera y Damas then referred to the so-called "Jesuits' case." He said that the way in which the assassination of the six priests and the two women was carried out "is now clear" and "all we need now is a juridical confirmation of those who were responsibile" for the action. Recent statements by military officers accused of the crime and statements by other witnesses have confirmed the burning of key evidence as well as the responsibility of Colonel Alfredo Benavides, former director of the military academy in this capital. He has been implicated in the crime.

The archbishop also accused the Army of a "clear abuse of power." Members of the Army were ostentatiously present in the court that was handling Benavides' case at the same time that one of the accused and other cadets who witnessed the event were making their depositions.

"This is an evident abuse of power, and this cannot be because the weapons have not been given to preclude the management of justice, but rather to corroborate the enforcement of justice," he said.

Asked about the arrest of Mexican Professor Maria Eugenia Ochoa and the Spanish citizen, who were later released by a civil court because of a lack of evidence, the archbishop said that the security corps must give up their "coercive methods."

He said: "Coercion and fear can result in false confessions, and this should have been corrected because many mistakes have been made throughout the years."

FMLN Says Government Opposes Peace

PA0906045490 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0308 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] denounced today that certain government and Armed Forces groups oppose the end of the war because this would represent the end of the easy dollars business.

A communique issued today by the FMLN also reiterated the authorities' alleged lack of willingness to curb repression and investigate the cruel assassinations perpetrated in recent years. The FMLN mentioned, among others, the crimes of Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero, the six Jesuit priests, and the September 1988 peasant massacre in San Vicente Department.

According to the rebel message, the war will end when the reasons for the war end, including repression and the unjust distribution of riches.

Reportage on Arrest of Mexican Professor

Rebels Tell of Arrest

PA0606143590 Paris AFP in Spanish 0529 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Text] San Salvador, 4 Jun (AFP)—Rebel sources today reported that Maria Eugenia Ochoa, a journalist and a professor at the University of Guadalajara in Mexico, has been arrested by Salvadoran soldiers.

In a communique, the Modesto Ramirez Central Front of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) charged that Ochoa was arrested in western San Salvador on 31 May.

According to the guerrilla communique, Maria Eugenia Ochoa was transferred by security agents to the headquarters of the National Police.

The FMLN demanded that the government of President Alfredo Cristiani and the Army High Command "protect the physical and moral well-being" of the professor, and it asked the Mexican Embassy in San Salvador and humanitarian organizations to use their good offices to watch over the rights of the prisoner.

As of the evening of 4 June, no official report had been issued on the arrest of the professor and free-lance journalist.

President Alfredo Cristiani will travel to Mexico on 6 June for an official visit of several days. He will meet with President Carlos Salinas de Gortari, with whom he will sign a free trade agreement.

Mexican Foreign Ministry Comments

PA0606190890 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Report by Salpress correspondent Ricardo Gomez from Mexico City—recorded]

[Text] The Mexican Foreign Relations Secretariat has said that the Mexican Embassy in San Salvador is taking steps to determine the reasons for the arrest of Maria Eugenia Ochoa Garcia, a journalist and professor at Guadalajara University. The Mexican Embassy has confirmed that Ms. Ochoa is in the custody of the National Police.

According to a communique issued on 4 June by the Information Directorate of the Mexican Foreign Relations Secretariat, the Mexican Embassy in El Salvador has taken steps to determine the reasons for the arrest of Mexican citizen Maria Eugenia Ochoa Garcia. The full text of the communique states the following:

As of early this morning, 4 June, when the Mexican Embassy in El Salvador learned of the arrest of Mexican citizen Maria Eugenia Ochoa Garcia as reported by National Police officers, our diplomatic mission took steps to clarify this situation and protect the rights of our fellow citizen before the authorities. As a result, the Salvadoran Government has cooperated favorably with embassy authorities. The Mexican Embassy in San Salvador received confirmation to the effect that Ms. Ochoa was arrested by the National Police. However, no reports have been obtained with regard to the reason for her arrest. Thus, the Mexican Embassy has requested that an investigation be opened to safeguard the rights of the Mexican citizen.

The text of the communique was signed the evening of 4 June 1990 in Tlatelolco.

To Be Tried in San Salvador

PA0606190990 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1545 GMT 6 Jun 90

[Text] San Salvador, 6 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—A military spokesman today announced that Mexican Maria Eugenia Ochoa Garcia, who was arrested by Salvadoran Police on 31 May and charged with participating in subversive activities and assuming a false identity, will be tried by a court in San Salvador.

The same source added that at the moment of her arrest in the western area of the Salvadoran capital, Ochoa was contacting two "subversives" of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN).

The Armed Forces Press Committee (Coprefa) today reported that "after her arrest, a false identity card bearing the name Elsa Alferez Duran issued in Aguilares—a town in San Salvador Department—a student identity card, and subversive propaganda were seized from Ochoa."

According to reports, the Mexican, who is a journalist and a professor at the University of Guadalajara, capital of Jalisco State, is being held at the Women's Jail in San Salvador.

According to diplomatic sources, during a meeting with personnel of the Mexican Embassy in San Salvador, Ochoa said that she has not been mistreated and is in good health.

Coprefa reported that the arrested woman arrived in El Salvador on 29 May to visit the Salvadoran universities, "which proved to be a pretext to join terrorist organizations."

The same source added that since 1987, Ochoa has been a member of a Mexican solidarity group with El Salvador "that has organized marches and other activities to collect funds for subversive groups" in El Salvador.

According to the Mexican Foreign Ministry, that country's embassy in El Salvador is consulting with attorneys to provide needed legal counsel to Ochoa to ensure that her rights are respected.

Released for Lack of Evidence

PA0806231690 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1323 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Text] San Salvador, 8 Jun (ACAN - EFE)—A Salvadoran judge has released Maria Ochoa Garcia, a Mexican professor who was arrested by the Salvadoran police on 31 May and charged with subversive activities and having a false identity card. She was released for lack of evidence.

A judiciary source told ACAN-EFE that 7th Penal Judge Roberto Zelada, who was handling the case, announced the release of Ochoa Garcia, although he did not give any more details.

According to military sources, the Mexican was arrested one week ago in the western part of the Salvadoran capital where she supposedly had contacts with two "subversives" of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN).

"After she was arrested, the police found on Ochoa Garcia a false identification card made out to Elsa Alferez Duran in Aguilares," a town of the Department of San Salvador, "a student identification card, and subversive propaganda," the Salvadoran Armed Forces reported two days ago in a communique.

The Mexican, who according to reports is a journalist and professor of the University of Guadalajara, capital of Jalisco State, was held at a women's prison in El Salvador.

Salvadoran military sources said that, according to Ochoa, who arrived in El Salvador on 29 January, she came to visit Salvadoran universities, which turned out "to be false," and that she had belonged since 1987 to Mexican groups that profess solidarity toward El Salvador.

The release of Ochoa Garcia coincides with Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani's beginning of a three-day visit to Mexico yesterday.

Codefam Says Repressive Campaign Launched

PA1006043090 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] Protests from various social sectors of the country have continued to be heard seven days after the beginning of the so-called year of peace. The Committee of Relatives of Murdered and Missing People and in Favor of the Release of Political Prisoners in El Salvador, Codefam, today charged that the Army has launched a military offensive against the popular sectors and against freedom of expression.

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] First, only seven days after the year of peace began, the Army and the police have launched one of the most ferocious offensives against the social and political forces in the country. They have captured and tortured four members of the Social Christian Peoples Movement [MPSC]. They have also captured four members of the Federation of Cooperative Associations of Agricultural Livestock Production of El Salvador, Fedecopades. In the past seven days, the government and the Army have continued to militarize life in the country. Conscription has been evident in 12 different areas during the past week. [end recording]

The Codefam also expressed concern for the level of decadence in the administration of justice. According to the Codefam, the Judicial Branch is linked to the military process. The Codefam talked about the release of the soldier who murdered Canal Doce Television cameraman Mauricio Pineda.

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] In these past seven days, freedom of expression has experienced serious setbacks. With the search of DIARIO LATINO and the attempt to arrest Sara Rodriguez Avelenda, they [not further identified] have boycotted the coverage that the media has tried to give the case of the Jesuits. They are trying to deal with this case in secrecy and behind the backs of the people who want to see this case cleared. They have also released the man directly responsible for the death of cameraman Mauricio Pineda. All this makes us think that there is no real will for justice, but quite the contrary. They are trying to ensure that more members of the press will experience harm. [end recording]

In light of the above, the Codefam leaders believe that the so-called year of peace is nothing more than a cover for the beginning of a violent and repressive period under the command of the Arena [Nationalist Republican Alliance] leadership, the government, and the Armed Forces. The Codefam leaders have asked the new attorney general to play a more active role in the judicial actions of the country and to be removed from party interests.

Dialogue Coordinator on Discussion of Armed Forces

PA0806031890 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 2 Jun 90

[Text] Oscar Santamaria, coordinator of the National Dialogue Commission, said today that the reorganization of the Armed Forces is a topic in the peace negotiations.

Santamaria said that the issue of the Armed Forces is particularly complex not only because of the very nature of the military institution but also because of a demand made by the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front]. He said that the government cannot accept a reorganization of the Armed Forces that would affect its chain of command.

[Begin recording] [Santamaria] We have already addressed the Armed Forces in our discussions. We know that its reorganization is a complex subject, but we believe that we can agree on a number of aspects. However, we do believe that subjective proposals and

obviously personal opinions must be rejected, because they tend to undermine the framework that we must use at this stage to negotiate general or basic concepts.

[Reporter] What do you mean by personal opinions?

[Santamaria] We are referring to those times when we are told that we must eliminate or change certain people because of an FMLN demand. We think that this kind of negotiating is not serious or that it is based on reasons that are really aimed at changing the institution. [end recording]

According to Santamaria, the Armed Forces' regorganizataion must be part of a broader process to democratize society. The duties of the institution must be redefined and readjusted under a new political framework for the sake of peace in the country.

[Begin Santamaria recording] Let us look at this FMLN proposal. The FMLN proposes this within the concept of democratization. Consequently, we must look at the role of the Armed Forces within a democratic process. [end recording]

Santamaria said that there is still no exact date for the resumption of the talks with the guerrillas but added that these talks should be held as soon as possible and in line with the date to begin the suspension of armed actions.

Army Commander Discusses Recent FMLN Actions

PA0706184690 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 6 Jun 90

[Report by Antonio Mineros]

[Text] Colonel Francisco Elena Fuentes, commander of the 1st Infantry Brigade, has described the recent attacks carried out by the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] in San Salvador—including the wounding of Lieutenant Edgar Rivera and sabotage to the power system—as a clear division within the guerrilla movement that could even hinder the dialogue and negotiation process that calls for sincerity from those who are up in arms. Col. Elena Fuentes stressed that these actions are being carried out by small groups.

[Begin Elena Fuentes recording] That is the kind of situation we are always talking about. We have always said that we hope that when the FMLN talks of peace, they will do it with sincerity. Unfortunately, we believe that there are groups that do not agree with what the FMLN leaders are doing. They have proven this on many occasions. When the FMLN was in Mexico saying that they wanted to hold a dialogue, a group of 50 terrorists led by two men raided Berlin and Alegria and said that they would not listen to those who were in Mexico. These actions are probably being carried out by groups who do not agree with what is being done, and this could be dangerous. [end recording]

However, the commander of the 1st Military Zone said that the will of all the sectors of the country involved in the search for a short-term solution to the armed conflict must prevail. Col. Elena Fuentes also said that the political solution to the Salvadoran conflict is fully supported by the Salvadoran Armed Forces.

Editorial on Unheralded End of 'Cold War'

PA0606230890 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 5 Jun 90 p 7

[Editorial: "First Summit Without 'Cold War'"]

[Text] One of the most curious phenomena of our days is the way the so-called "cold war" is coming to an unheralded end. The exclusionary bipolar system of power is being scrapped and surely the future meetings between the leaders of the United States and the USSR will become less important because the USSR is no longer the absolute adversary of the United States. Now it is becoming clear that a great part of the cold war rhetoric was nothing more than just cold war rhetoric and that the trauma of the past 45 years, since the end of World War II, was, to a great extent, provoked by the enormous capacity for intimidation developed by the Marxist-Leninist ideology that constantly pulled the shadow of death over the frightened and put the West on the defensive. The resounding end of the Soviet domination of Europe has taken place despite the actions of the West, which allowed a shameful movement of conciliation with the Stalinist crimes and its consequences to flourish throughout free Europe. Until now, we did not realized that the famous "proletarian internationalism" was not even a ghost and that the USSR has as much chance of dominating the world as a Central American country has of putting a man on the moon.

Within this new situation, Presidents Bush and Gorbachev held a four-day meeting in Washington. Even though Gorbachev, who is facing serious internal problems, has publicly adopted some self-sufficient attitudes, the truth is that his visit to Washington was made with an extended hand, not only to greet, but also to ask. Like any other Third World country, which it is, the USSR has sent its leader to negotiate in Washington, and of course, like the great military power it still is, the USSR has very important bargaining chips.

The agreements made public after the all-smiles summit are proof of a barter—progressive arms reduction by the USSR, which is ahead in this area, in exchange for commercial advantages. The other agreements announced are just nice trimmings. Probably the most important point is the climate that surrounded the meeting. A climate that, strictly speaking, is not the result of an understanding among equals, but of the unavoidable transition toward multipolarity. The USSR is getting out of the club of the two.

Guatemala

U.S. Businessman Kidnapped, Murdered

PA1006181190 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1558 GMT 10 Jun 90

[Text] Guatemala City, 10 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—American businessman Michael Vernon Devine has been murdered in Guatemala after having been kidnapped. His beheaded body was found in the town of Poptun, near the Mexican border, Guatemalan police reported today.

Devine's body, which was found near some bushes, was decapitated, tied up, and showed signs of having being tortured.

Devine, 49, was from Illinois and he was kidnapped on 1 June by a group of unidentified men as he was going to a Poptun farm, the police sources added.

The American was the owner of a small restaurant called "Xobel," and he also worked as a tour guide.

Ambassador to OAS Comments on Outstanding Debt

PA0906190990 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 1 Jun 90 p 68

[Text] Guatemala's permanent representative at the OAS, Luis Alberto Sepulveda, said during a news conference on 31 May that Guatemala continues to be a voting member of the OAS and that it has never lost its rights as such.

Sepulveda said that Guatemala's debt with the OAS for quotas and other contributions adds up to $400,000, distributed in payments to several organizations, but that this is no reason for Guatemala to lose its rights as a voting member.

Guatemala's debt to the OAS is similar to that of several other member countries. If a ruling on debts and voting rights were implemented, many countries would lose their voting rights.

In conclusion, Sepulveda said that Guatemala is still an active member of the OAS and that it has participated in all the activities of the organization since its creation.

CNR President Terms Dialogue 'Positive'

PA0606011990 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 3 Jun 90 p 3

[Report by Rony Ivan Veliz]

[Text] Guatemala City 4 Jun — Msgr. Rodolfo Quesada Toruno, president of the National Reconciliation Commission [CNR], has termed as positive the dialogue held between the commanders of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, URNG, and the representatives of the nine political parties to search for the peace the Guatemalan people are longing for. However, the dialogue did not result in a peace treaty or a cease-fire agreement, and was instead a political effort.

Msgr. Quesada told EL GRAFICO that the dialogue held in El Escorial, Madrid, Spain, is the first one in the 30 years of conflict during which thousands have died. A long-lasting peace was not attained at the meeting between the politicians and the guerrilla commanders, but we are working with great enthusiasm to reach this goal, he added.

The next meeting among the URNG commanders with the private, labor, and religious sectors will probably be held at the end of this month. The venue of the meeting has not been decided yet, but it could be in Guatemala, Msrg. Quesada Toruno said, although this is a very remote possibility.

The meeting between the politicians and the guerrillas had a very cordial atmosphere. A total of 17 guerrillas attended the meeting, including Commanders Gaspar Illom, Pablo Monsanto, Carlos Gonzalez, and Dr. Miguel Angel Sandoval, who was representing Rolando Moran. Francisco Villagran, Luis Becker, and other insurgents from the diplomatic commission attended the meeting as observers, the CNR president said.

Asked about his participation in this kind of political activity, Msgr. Rodolfo Quesada Toruno said this is not partisan politics, because his role is to reconcile the guerrilla commanders and the various sectors in the country. He said he is authorized by the Catholic Church and has Pope John Paul II's approval for this mission.

Defense Minister on Army's View of Talks

PA0606011190 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 1 Jun 90 p 27

[Text] Defense Minister General Juan Manuel Bolanos has said that the statement made by the nine representatives of the political parties who met with guerrilla commanders in Madrid, Spain, which condemned the attack against the Panajachel Municipality highway system in the Solola Department, forced the guerrilla leaders to deny any responsibility for the attack.

Gen. Bolanos added that investigations are now under way to determine the losses caused by the attack. There is a widespread belief that the guerrilla groups launched the attack.

Commenting on the meeting being held in Madrid, Gen. Bolanos said that the Guatemalan Army, as a government institution, supports all efforts to achieve national reconciliation as long as they conform to the law as set forth in the Guatemalan Constitution and the Esquipulas II Treaties.

Trade Union Members Leave Cacif Building

PA1106043490 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 5 Jun 90 p2

[Text] The trade union members who had been occupying the Guatemalan Chamber of Industry building left the premises at 2210 on 4 June, after reaching an agreement with the government and Cacif [Coordinating Committee of Farming, Commercial, Industrial, and Financial Associations].

More than 100 members of the Democratic Labor Front [FSD] who had been occupying the building left after Hugo Hernandez, the head of FSD, and several other FSD leaders agreed to meet with Carlos Soto Menegazo, minister of specific affairs, and two Cacif representatives.

The tripartite commission agreed to hold talks if the workers left the Chamber of Industry building. The workers left at 2210 without any police intervention.

Victor Suarez, president of the Chamber of Industry, made statements as soon as the workers left the building. He said that, fortunately, the illegal occupation had ended.

Suarez said that Cacif will have to proceed with the talks that had already started. He said that the Chamber of Industries is willing to cooperate so that a positive agreement can be reached because "the problems posed by these workers are the same problems we are all facing in Guatemala."

He said that they had treated the workers with respect, although they have good reasons to doubt who manipulated the movement. They know Hugo Hernandez well, and they know about his actions in favor of the government since 1988. [sentence as published]

After the workers had left, the police antiriot squad remained to guard the building and prevent any future incidents.

Honduras

Ambassador Denies CIA Involvement in Murders

PA0706183390 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1713 GMT 7 Jun 90

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 7 Jun (NOTIMEX)—U.S. Ambassador Cresencio Arcos today rejected that the CIA is involved in the murder of two popular leaders killed in Tegucigalpa last week.

The U.S. diplomat said that he is worried about the wave of violence affecting this country because, he noted, it is U.S. policy to respect human rights.

"It is always more convenient to say that the gringos or the communists did it every time a cow is killed. Many people use this excuse to evade the responsibilities of extremist groups," Arcos said.

He reiterated that he hopes that the government of president Rafael Leonardo Callejas will investigate these crimes, "because I believe that one must condemn them and that a wave of violence like this is repugnant in any democratic society," the diplomat concluded.

Communique on Contra Repatriation Process

PA0906005890 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 7 Jun 90 p 5

[Press Communique No. 031-90 issued by Foreign Ministry's Information and Press Directorate in Tegucigalpa on 6 June]

[Text] Press Communique No. 031-90

The 40,000 Nicaraguan refugees and relatives of former Nicaraguan Resistance members who are currently in Honduras will start a massive return to their country soon. This return will be completed in compliance with the agreements reached at the eighth Honduras-Nicaragua-UNHCR [UN High Commission for Refugees] Tripartite Commission meeting that was held in Managua.

Up to now, 10,700 Nicaraguans have requested to return to their country, and, thanks to what was agreed on, they will soon initiate voluntary repatriation. The refugees are leaving in groups of 300 persons every two days. Initially, 900 persons will leave each week, but the flow of people returning to Nicaragua is expected to increase substantially in the near future.

Collective safe-conduct will be issued to groups returning to Nicaragua, and persons will be allowed to take their belongings with them. In addition, the returning Nicaraguans will be provided with money, food, and work tools.

Nicaraguans will leave Honduras through the Leymus, Las Manos, and El Espino border posts, and an additional departure post will be opened at El Guineo, near Trojes and Teotecacinte.

It has been estimated that 40,000 Nicaraguans will have returned to their country in a six-month period. This number includes refugees, relatives of former Nicaraguan Resistance members, and maimed Nicaraguan rebels.

The Honduran delegation that attended the meeting of the Tripartite Commission for Voluntary Repatriation was headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Jaime Guell Bogran. The Nicaraguan delegation was headed by Foreign Minister Gustavo Soto.

The UNHCR delegation was headed by Werner Elatter, who represents this organization in Central America and Panama. CIAV [International Commission of Support and Verification] Deputy Representative Francisco Manca also attended the meeting.

Tegucigalpa, 6 June 1990

Foreign Ministry—Information and Press Directorate

Zapata Describes Taiwan Ties as 'Positive'

OW0406134290 Taipei CNA in English 1155 GMT 4 Jun 90

[Text] Asuncion, June 3 (CNA)—Dr. Mario Carias Zapata, foreign minister of Honduras, said that the relations between ROC [Republic of China] and his country are very cordial and positive. He thinks it will be further strengthened in the future.

Carias pointed out that a high ranking Honduran delegation led by the president of the Congress and the commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces that visited ROC recently to participate in the ceremonies of the inaugural of President Li, demonstrated the possibility for establishing a new line of cooperation between the two countries.

Carias mentioned that ROC not only has granted a great deal of technical assistance in the production of important commodities such as rice and shrimps, but also gives financial cooperation to his government. He said also that the industrial and commercial cooperation of two countries in the new processing zone of Honduras will be enhanced in the future.

Carias said also even though the number of Chinese residents in Honduras is not very large, they have played an important role in his country.

Minister Carias arrived in Asuncion Monday to take part in the twentieth regular session of the OAS (Organization of American States) General Assembly.

Newspapers Report on Financial Assistance

PA0306152390

[Editorial Report] Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish on 31 May carries two articles on foreign economic assistance to Honduras. A 100-word article on page 32 reports that Irias Navas, president of congress, and General Arnulfo Cantarero Lopez, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, have returned from the Republic of China (ROC) where they "presented a request on behalf of Honduran President Callejas" for "an extra $10 million loan." The article notes that the ROC had accepted Callejas' request.

Another article on the same page reports that Monique Monting, Honduran affairs representative to the EEC, met on 30 May with Ramiro Figueroa, Honduran deputy minister of economy, "to learn various aspects of the $18 million program to improve private enterprise, increase production and quality, and promote industrial exchange." The 125-word article adds that the $18 million will be distributed over three years.

Meanwhile, San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish on 31 May carries on page two a 300-word article reporting that the Honduran foreign minister and the Japanese ambassador have signed the documents on a $50-million dollar loan "to support the structural adjustment of the economic program" of Honduras. While the Japanese ambassador pointed out that this loan "will serve to alleviate the shortage of foreign currency in the country," the foreign minister emphasized that the economic adjustment program will allow Honduras "to bring up to date its financial situation before the international organizations."

Student Found Dead Was 'Triple A' Target

PA0606231390 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 5 Jun 90 p 28

[Report by Octavio Carvajal]

[Text] Ramon Antonio Briceno, the student leader who was found dead with 11 bullet wounds on 3 June, had been sentenced to death since last year because the message "Briceno is Already Dead: Triple 'A'" can be found in university classrooms.

Members of the Revolutionary University Front (FUR) said that the message, which appears on walls in the School of Economics, was written last year while Briceno was the candidate to the student board of that school.

According to the FUR branch in the School of Economics, this threatening message was supposed to serve as an example to the people.

FUR members in the School of Economics accused the "Armed Forces, the paramilitary groups, and the university right wing of masterminding Briceno's murder.

"We blame the Armed Forces, the paramilitary groups and the university right wing for Briceno's murder, and we want to tell them that the FRU will work hard for the UNAH [National Autonomous University of Honduras] to be placed at the service of the people."

They said that the Salvadoran- and Chilean-style national security policy has revived during this decade.

Bonilla said Briceno had told them that the Fuud [United Front of Democratic University Students] threatened him constantly with death, but he never took the threats seriously.

According to FRU Secretary General Juan Castellanos, Briceno was threatened with death during the latest elections at the School of Economics by a man whose last name is Benavides. At one point, Benavides pulled out an identity card saying "G-2, military intelligence."

He said that, in view of the threat, the FRU spoke out against the G-2, and its members still do not know if Benavides was a university student or "an Armed Forces mole."

"We feel that this is a desperate attempt by the university authorities to remain at the helm and prevent the

students and the people from protesting the measures of the Callejas administration," said Castellanos, who said he is also being persecuted.

The student leader said that the 10-cent coin Briceno had in his mouth when he was found was "a mockery of the FRU because it is always asking the students for assistance to finance its political campaigns at the UNAH."

During a news conference on 4 June, the Popular Organizations Coordinating Committee (CCOP) said through its president, Juan Almendares Bonilla, that this murder was a "planned death."

"This is a new version of the national security doctrine; Callejas promised respect for human rights and a change toward life, and what we have is a change toward death," Almendares said.

The grassroots leader said that the crime was part of a climate of institutionalized terror under which people are murdered and their "deaths are planned."

He said that the latest murders—of a secondary school student, the leader of the Union of Workers of the Honduran Social Security Institute (Sitrahiss) and Briceno—have been reported by the CCOP at an international level and are a discredit to Honduras.

He announced that a peaceful demonstration will be held on 6 June at 1600 to protest the recruitment, the three murders, and the persecution against Consuelo Valladares, the companion of the Sitrahiss leader, who was shot to death on 31 May. They will also protest the death threats against students, FRU members Castellanos and Jose Leonidas Bobadilla, and some other Sitrahiss leaders.

Nicaragua

Reportage on Reactions to Contra Disarmament

Chamorro Speaks on Demobilization, Peace

PA0906232990 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Speech by President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro at El Almendro on 9 June—live; broadcast in progress]

[Text] ...tranquility to work and achieve progress, and to exert ourselves and improve everyone's situation. The day of peace has finally arrived. With this brilliant event in our history we are saying farewell to arms and farewell to the war [words indistinct] our wills. This heartfelt ceremony of disarmament marks the end of the war in Nicaragua. We are embarking on the road to achieve true reconstruction and reconciliation among brothers and to effectively reactivate the economy.

I want to tell you that when we signed the Toncontin agreement on 26 March 1990, and when we signed the 30 May protocol, I always had faith in God; I always trusted you and the Nicaraguan people. I had no doubts that this would soon become a reality. I know that most of you harbored some doubts. In fact, it is difficult to believe that we were capable of changing things. The homeland was [words indistinct] bitter and anguishing moments we have all experienced but, my dear friends, I was convinced that the resistance....[changes thought] that you would all fulfill your pledges to yourselves, Nicaragua, and the people—for the sake of the democracy and freedom that we began to build on 25 April.

We must reach an understanding through dialogues and agreements. There will be no more beatings or shootings and no more threats of cutting off hands. No more people will hang from the trees. All this is possible when there is a willingness to attain peace with decency; when there is no hate or exploitation [words indistinct] force, destruction, or [words indistinct].

I have to recognize this, which has been possible thanks to the international democratic community. It has helped us and continues to help us. This is possible because of the Esquipulas Agreements promoted by an outstanding statesman, Oscar Arias Sanchez. This is possible thanks to the support of organizations like CIAV [International Commission of Support and Verification] and ONUCA [UN Observer Group in Central America], whose best men from Venezuela, Spain, Canada, and other countries [words indistinct] helping us in the great task of peace and demobilization for our fatherland's reconciliation and salvation. This has been possible because we have had His Emminence Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo as a witness. He has been the great peacemaker for Nicaragua ever since efforts were started in Sapoa. His wisdom, kindness, and devotion have led us from the hell of war to the first hope for peace.

I want to issue an appeal to the fighters who have not yet demobilized. I want to invite them to trust this government and join national and civilian life and the labor force. I want you to turn in your war weapons and exchange them for the famous plows of peace. There should be no armed civilians from any faction; in fact, these factions must disappear completely. We must be a united Nicaragua.

In conclusion, I must announce that the Army has also begun a plan to reduce the Armed Forces. This plan is in my hands. I am studying it, and soon I will announce its details, using the example of my good Costa Rican friend, Don Pepe Figueres, as he was affectionately called. He died yesterday after struggling all his life for a democracy that had no need for an army.

Dear Nicaraguan brothers: With your support and with an effective reduction of the Army, we are beginning a true era of peace that will lead us to a consolidation of democracy and freedom and to a rebuilding of the economy and welfare of all Nicaraguans. The war in

Nicaragua ended today. Long live Nicaragua, long live freedom! [Crowd shouts: "Viva!"] Thank you, my friends.

Chamorro Urges Demobilization

PA0906213190 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1909 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] El Almendro (Nicaragua), 9 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—Nicaraguan President Violeta Chamorro has urged the "contra" combatants who have yet not demobilized to lay down their weapons because, she said, as of today, "we are ending the war," which lasted over 8 years.

Chamorro expressed optimism about the disarmament in the El Almendro "security zone," 270 km from Managua, where there will be a "mass demobilization" of rebels today. She said that with this action, "we are building the true path of reconciliation and peace" in Nicaragua.

Chamorro also announced that a plan has been started to reduce the size of the Sandinist People's Army (EPS), which is made up of 55,000 men and considered the largest army in Central America. She also said that details of the plan will be released in the next few days.

Chamorro, accompanied by Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo and several of her ministers, traveled today to El Almendro, near Rio San Juan, on the border with Costa Rica. About 1,500 contras in El Almendro will hand over their rifles today and tomorrow to the peacekeeping forces from the UN Observer Group in Central America, ONUCA.

According to rebel sources, 7,000 rebels have already demobilized, and about 6,000 have yet to demobilize.

Official sources have reported that the Nicaraguan president will personally receive the weapons of some members of the "contra" leadership. She urged rebels who, for "some reason" have not yet demobilized, to lay down their weapons and join the civilian or labor force in Nicaragua.

The chief of the executive branch said: "There are no longer armed civilians in any of the factions, because even factions must completely disappear. From now on, there should be a united Nicaragua." Chamorro, who is 61, said that from now on, "Nicaraguans should reach agreements through dialogue and never again with sticks and gunfire."

"The bitter and distressing times of the war are over," Chamorro said, adding: "I always had faith and confidence in God that it would be possible to attain peace in Nicaragua."

The president said: "I know that most of you contras doubted and found it difficult to believe that we could change things, but I was certain that we could and that the Nicaraguan Resistance will now fulfill its commitments."

In her speech, Chamorro praised the efforts of former Costa Rican President Oscar Arias, mastermind of the regional peace plan; the ONUCA forces headed by Spanish General Agustin Quesada; and the International Commission of Support and Verification (CIAV), which is in charge of supplying clothing and food for the demobilized rebels.

Chamorro praised Costa Rican politician Jose Figueres, 84, who died yesterday in San Jose. "Pepe Figueres struggled for democracy without an army," she said.

The president also praised the Spanish, Venezuelan, Canadian, and other governments that helped "us in the search for peace and democracy in Nicaragua."

"We are now beginning new times of peace that will help us consolidate democracy and rebuild the economy," she added. General Quesada, CIAV representatvie Santiago Murray, and three members of Chamorro's Cabinet attended the ceremony.

Assembly Secretary Gives View

PA1006001390 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2141 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] We are reporting from El Almendro, where Violeta Chamorro personally received the weapons surrendered by 24 contra commanders. The contra commanders demobilized this morning during an important ceremony attended by Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, who held an outdoor mass.

National Assembly Secretary Cesar Aguirre, who accompanied President Chamorro, said that peaceful dialogue and negotiations are basic weapons to end the war.

He said: I remember that when I decided to withdraw from the resistance leadership, I was widely criticized by the most radical sectors, who this morning in El Almendro acknowledged that I was right.

[Begin recording] [Cesar] When I returned a year ago, I was widely criticized by many of these sectors. Some criticized me because they really did not believe in the possibility of peace in Nicaragua. They did not believe that elections would lead to national reconciliation.

Others criticized me simply because they did not believe that Sandinists and non-Sandinists could coexist in Nicaragua and peacefully work for the country's welfare.

[Reporter] Is Franklin demobilizing?

[Cesar] Yes, Franklin is going to demobilize at the end of the day. What we started here today will continue today and tomorrow. There are almost 2,000 armed fighters forming lines at the CIAV [International Commission of Support and Verification] and ONUCA [UN Observer Group in Central America] demobilizing locations.

This morning Violeta personally received the weapons of the first 24 commanders. Then the long process began. It will take many hours today and tomorrow. Franklin has confirmed to me that he and his staff do not want to lose a single day. They want to join in the country's economic recovery. Therefore, tomorrow there will be a total disarmament of the entire Nicaraguan Resistance. For we Nicaraguans, this should not be just one more event. It has no precedent in any other country. [end recording]

Contra Leader on Resistance

PA0906224490 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1954 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] El Almendro (Nicaragua), 9 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—Contra leader Commander "Franklin" (Israel Galeano) announced today that the organization that struggled militarily against the Sandinist People's Army (EPS) for the last eight years "will virtually disappear tomorrow, Sunday 10 June."

According to the 4 May agreement signed in Managua by President Violeta Chamorro and the rebel leader, the "contra" fighters must end their disarmament tomorrow in the presence of the UN Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA), in exchange for land and participation in the creation of a rural police.

In a short speech given in the presence of Chamorro and Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, who went to El Almendro, 270 km south of Managua, to attend the rebels' disarmament "en masse," Commander "Franklin" said today: "We are concluding the demobilization process."

"The Nicaraguans are now beginning the second phase in Nicaragua's economic development, and the resistance members will become production forces to protect the peace and reconciliation process," the anti-Sandinist leader emphasized.

The rebel leader, who said he will demobilize after the last fighter has done so, invited the "destabilizing groups" in Central America to imitate the contras' action of disarmament and join the civil life of their countries.

"We want peace with dignity. Enough of foreign doctrines; enough of impositions and bloodshed," said Commander Franklin.

According to official sources, approximately 1,500 contras will turn over their weapons today and tomorrow to the peace-keeping forces of the UN, whose security council yesterday extended the ONUCA's mandate to carry out the contras' disarmament between 10 and 29 June.

Even though rebel sources initially said that the contras' full disarmament would not conclude on the scheduled date (10 June), given that the international organizations lacked the technical means to look after the demobilized, the resistance leader said that his organization "will virtually disappear tomorrow."

In his homily to the contra fighters at El Almendro today, Cardinal Obando y Bravo said that "there will be no peace or true reconciliation and democracy in Nicaragua if we are unable to forgive."

Disarmament Delayed

PA0906041290 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0204 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] Managua, 8 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—Tomorrow President Violeta Chamorro and Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo will observe the demobilization of a group of "contras" in the "security zone" in El Almendro, 279 km from Managua, a process which was scheduled to end by 10 June.

However, sources from the UN Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA) have said that the final disarmament of the rebels cannot take place on 10 June as established in the agreement signed on 4 May between President Chamorro and "Commander Franklin" (Israel Galeano), the rebels' military leader.

According to Galeano, the delay in the dismantling of the "contras" is because of the lack of technical means to demobilize more than 700 men a day by the ONUCA and the International Commisssion of Support and Verification (CIAV), in charge of distributing the humanitarian aid for the former fighters.

The presence of Chamorro and Cardinal Obando y Bravo in El Almendro (where the rebels' general staff is located) has been interpreted by ONUCA officers as a "tremendous support" for the rebels' demobilization.

In that regard, the daily LA PRENSA—owned by the president—reported today that approximately 2,500 men are expected to be disarmed this weekend and that army trucks are transporting thousands of "contras" to the "security zone" that the Nicaraguan president will visit tomorrow.

In addition to Chamorro and Cardinal Obando y Bravo, Spanish General Agustin Quesada, ONUCA's top commander, and CIAV Coordinator Santiago Murray will also be present.

In view of the impossibility of demobilizing all the rebels by Sunday, the UN Security Council today approved a resolution extending the mandate given to ONUCA—which was to expire on 10 June—until 29 June.

According to rebel sources, approximately 7,000 "contras" have surrendered their weapons as of today, while some 6,000 are still armed.

Total Demobilization by 15 Jun

PA0806215790 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2024 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Text] Madrid, 8 Jun (EFE)—Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Enrique Dreyfus said today that there are great

possibilities that the contras will be demobilized by 10 June, the date originally set in the agreements signed on 30 May.

Dreyfus, who arrived in Madrid from Rome to attend a meeting of the Institute for European and Latin American Relations (IRELA), said that if they are not demobilized by 10 June, they will certainly be demobilized by 15 June.

According to Dreyfus, at the rate the contras are demobilizing, which is 500 per day, there will be only 2,000 or 3,000 armed contras left by 10 June and the process will be totally completed by 15 June.

The Information Office of the Spanish Foreign Ministry issued a communique on 8 June saying that Spain and Venezuela, who are part of the UN contingent supervising the peace process in Nicaragua, are willing to accept an extension of their tour of duty, which expires on 10 June, if the Nicaraguan Government and the contras request it.

Dreyfus said that President Violeta Chamorro does not want an army, although he admitted that it is hard to convince the military sector of this if you have two heavily armed neighbors.

He expressed admiration for Costa Rica, which he says is a great country, although it has no army and only two and a half million people. He said that Costa Rica's greatness lies in its revenue and the values of its people.

Referring to the new Nicaraguan Government's foreign policy, Dreyfus said that it needs positive and not negative relations. He added: I do not see why we should not have relations with South Korea and Cuba. [sentence as received]

Contras Moving To Comply

PA0906191390 Paris AFP in Spanish 0403 GMT 7 Jun 90

[Text] Managua, 6 Jun (AFP)—The media has learned that approximately 2,800 Nicaraguan Resistance (RN) rebels began moving to southern Nicaragua on 6 June to turn in their weapons in compliance with the demobilization agreement, which is scheduled to end 10 June.

The rebel mobilization was confirmed by newsmen who were able to interview several contra leaders as they headed a caravan that passed through the city of Esteli, 200 km north of Managua.

The rebels—who represent the RN's elite corps—were transported in Sandinist Army trucks and escorted by observers of the OAS International Commission of Support and Verification (CIAV) and representatives of the UN Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA).

It was also confirmed that the contra forces were also accompanied by Major Daniel Pozo, Sandinist Army chief of staff in the northern part of the country.

Amadeo Rivera "Commandante Wilmer," as well as "Tiro al Blanco" and "Ismael," were identified among the rebel chiefs who traveled from the northern to the southern part of the country.

Rivera explained to the press that the move was made "to facilitate the demobilization," because "there are very few UN observers," in the north and they are in charge of receiving the RN's arsenal.

An unofficial source reported to AFP that the RN intends to regroup its forces in the zones provided by the government for their return to civilian life.

ONUCA: Disarmament Proceeding

PA0806153690 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Jun 90

[Text] According to ONUCA [UN Observer Group in Central America], the process of disarmament and demobilization of the contras continued on 6 June at an acceptable rate, with a count of 757 in the five security zones.

ONUCA political adviser Fernando Castanon reported that with the figure achieved yesterday, a total of 6,687 contras have been demobilized and disarmed. In the last few days, a large number of contras have turned in their old rifles to ONUCA in Security Zones (?2 and 4). Yesterday, for example, 222 and 195 did so, respectively.

With only three days left for the deadline for disarmament and demobilization to expire, it will be extremely difficult to comply with the agreement, even though the process will not be delayed very much, government spokesmen have said.

Editorial Opposes Further Concessions to Contras

PA1106025390 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 9 Jun 90 p 3

[Editorial: "No More Negotiations With the Contra"]

[Text] The deadline for the demobilization of the contras ends tomorrow. But—as happened with the 25 April and 5 December deadlines, as well as with the deadlines agreed on by the Central American presidents—the contras once again will not disband. For the umpteenth time, the contras reaffirm that they will not comply with a total and definite demobilization.

In all honesty and fairness, the various figures reported (the UN says 15,000) indicate that a large number of contras has not disbanded. The first to do so—and this was a sizeable percentange—were the wounded and the maimed; they were carrying military equipment that was so badly damaged that it was not worth the cost to destroy it.

These contras have been followed by children, women, and collaborators who are very removed from the troops and who could very well have followed procedures for the repatriation of refugees instead of procedures for the

demobilization. We cannot deny that a large number of military personnel fit for combat chose to disband and rejoin civilian life under the guarantees of the government, CIAV [International Support and Verification Commission], and ONUCA [UN Observer Group in Central America]. Unlike the previous deadlines, when the commitments became mere words when it was time to abide by them, we must admit—the quibbling between the government and the contras notwithstanding—that the process of demobilization has begun for the first time. However, the government has granted concessions that are questionable, unforgiveable, and harmful in many ways. They are harmful to the rights of Nicaraguans, the institutions, the laws, and the constitution. This matter must be revised and corrected to restore peace to the people.

Aside from the difficulties and abuses, it is now indispensable for the nation's peace and stability to ensure that the demobilization process that has begun for the first time is irreversible and is complied with immediately.

We must take contra leader "Franklin" seriously when he says there is no room for new negotiations on the demobilization deadline. In plain language, that can only mean one thing: There is no other deadline. After failing to comply so many times, the contras must now comply so that Violeta Chamorro's government can rule in peace and offer the security and guarantees that all the citizens are demanding.

As so many previous failures to comply have proved, words of persuasion and goodwill are not enough. That is why the government, CIAV, ONUCA, and Msgr. Miguel Obando y Bravo are morally and politically bound to exert different forms of pressure to ensure the total disarmament and total end of the contras.

The government must not be allowed to grant more concessions than it already has. Tomorrow we reach the deadline's zero hour. It must also be the definite zero hour of the war and of the various forms of aggression initiated, promoted, and financed by the United States.

Contra Commander on Demobilization

PA0706135190 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 5 Jun 90 pp 1, 5

[Report by Guillermo Cortes Dominguez]

[Text] El Almendro, Rio San Juan (Special Reporter)—Israel Galeano, Commander "Franklin" of the "contra" General Staff, has said here that the rural police who will take care of maintaining internal order in the "development centers" initially and for a certain period of time will be comprised exclusively of contras.

In addition, he demanded from the government the demilitarization of several thousand square kilometers located between the departments of Chontales and Rio San Juan and another area in the South Atlantic Autonomous Region (RAAS), since those sectors will be under the exclusive control of the rural police.

Galeano said that none of the members of the National Police under the Government Ministry will be part of the rural police. He added that the personnel of that armed institution, as well as members of the Ecological Protection Battalion, are now being selected.

Without specifying if the rural police will consist of thousands or hundreds of contras, Galeano said that in Security Zone 5 there are 500 armed men who will not turn in their rifles or military supplies because "we cannot be without protection."

He added: There are 700 more men who are disarmed whose demobilization was not accepted by ONUCA [UN Observer Group in Central America]. "They are not receiving disarmed men, and we cannot disarm the 500 men who would provide us with security," he stressed.

He explained that "many fighters were in Honduras for three years without receiving weapons," adding that a U.S. shipment of 7,000 rifles never arrived "because aid was frozen."

He said that the Ecological Protection Battalion—which will also be exclusively comprised of contras—will be trained by the United Nations, while the rural police will be trained by Violeta Chamorro's government.

As we may recall, on 29 May the government agreed with the contras to create one or more "development centers" within a geographic area to include the following points: San Ubaldo; Acoyapa; Santo Tomas; Villa Sandino; Muhan; La Gateada; Muelle de Los Bueyes; Ciudad Rama; Rio Rama; Rio Kukra; Miramar; Monkey Point; Punta Gorda; Barra de San Juan; Rio San Juan; Border Markers 2, 12, 13, and 14; San Carlos; San Miguelito; Morrito; and back to the San Ubaldo area.

Galeano said—and this was reaffirmed by his technical adviser Pepe Matus—that there should be no government military forces in that area. Although he did not condition continuing the demobilization process, he did demand the demilitarization of that vast territory.

The top contra military commander said that "we are pushing the demobilization process as much as we can." He also said that "we are engaged in an irreversible disarmament process."

He admitted that at the current pace—less than the 500 men per day stipulated in the latest agreement—the process will not conclude by the established date. However, he added: "The fact that the process will not end on 10 June does not mean that we will not complete the demobilization."

Galeano blamed the CIAV [International Commission of Support and Verification] for the current delay, saying that it is only capable of demobilizing between 80 to 100

contras per day. He added that in security zone one "there are entire battalions waiting in line to demobilize."

Responding to international reporters, he denied two things—that the government has offered diplomatic positions to contra military commanders, and that they are requesting $5,000 for each demobilized contra or that they have asked for a special ceremony to turn over weapons to President Chamorro in the Republic's Plaza, as contra commander "Jimmy Leo" has reportedly said.

According to Roberto Ferrey, here in El Almendro two members of the contra General Staff and two of its advisers were demobilized in compliance with a government requirement. They are Miguel Angel Soza Mendoza, "Emiliano," Enrique Zelaya Cruz, "Doctor Henry," Pepe Matus, and Bernardo Pastora Carcamo.

The four demobilized contras can now occupy positions in the Nicaraguan Repatriation Institute, the Health Ministry, and the Nicaraguan Agrarian Reform Institute [INRA].

Repatriation Institute Director Roberto Ferrey—former member of the contras' last Political Directorate—has said that "Emiliano" and Bernardo Pastora will join an Advisory Council that has not yet been created, "so that they can directly convey the concerns and interests of the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN]."

He added that the two officials will be under the institution he heads, and as such will be on the government payroll. Enrique Zelaya will be incorporated into the Health Ministry where, according to Ferrey, he will promote programs to assist the contras' war wounded, widows, and orphans. Matus will be given a position in the INRA.

Aristides Sanchez, the contras' main adviser, has not yet demobilized, and apparently his incorporation into Nicaraguan civilian life is very uncertain. For the time being, he has left the country for Tegucigalpa or Miami, where he has important economic interests.

For the first time since the Mother's Day pact, the contras yesterday fully complied with the minimum number of men that should be demobilized by disarming 832 contras.

A total of 126 men demobilized in security zone one, 157 in zone two, 159 in zone three, 206 in zone four, 77 in zone five—precisely in El Almendro—and 107 in zone six.

So far the total number of demobilized is 4,745. Israel Galeano told BARRICADA that there are a total of 15,000 contras, which means that there are still 10,255 contras to be disarmed. Since there are only six days left before the deadline expires, approximately 1,700 contras would have to turn in their weapons per day to meet that deadline.

Roberto Ferrey told BARRICADA that it is "virtually impossible to meet the deadline, but that what counts is that progress has been made. However, that is one of the things we want to discuss with them, with "Franklin," because we want to know the reasons for the delay in the demobilization."

Ferrey said that the government will not state its position with regard to that situation until after the UN Security Council makes an official statement. As is known, the UN Security Council's mandate to ONUCA will expire on 10 June.

Army Restructuring Topic To Be Taken to Summit

PA0806194390 Managua Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Text] The reduction and restructuring of the Army and the progressive advancement in the demobilization of the contras will be the letter of presentation that Nicaraguan President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro will take to the upcoming meeting of Central American presidents. This has been stated by Danilo Lacayo, spokesperson for the presidential palace. All of this is in keeping with the Esquipulas agreements.

[Begin Lacayo recording] We must state that Mrs. Violeta Barrios de Chamorro will arrive at the summit to be held on 15, 16, and 17 June in Ciudad Antigua, Guatemala, with positive results regarding the Esquipulas peace plan. The first concrete achievement is the demobilization of the Nicaraguan contras, which is being effected day by day. Second, Mrs. Violeta will also take to the summit a plan to reduce the Army. This was always in the peace plan. [end recording]

Today General Humberto Ortega gave the president the general plan to reduce and restructure the Sandinist People's Army. The last report by the International Commission of Support and Verification (CIAV) notes that thus far some 6,272 members of the Nicaraguan Resistance have been demobilized. Danilo Lacayo said that another of the fundamental topics to be broached at the presidential summit will be the economy.

[Begin Lacayo recording] To the extent that the economically strong countries give an opportunity to Central America to progress, a similar extent democracy will be stabilized and socioeconomic development will be achieved for the benefit of peace in the Central American region. [end recording]

Reportage on Donor Countries' Emergency Aid

$120 Million Assistance Approved

PA0806003090 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1942 GMT 7 Jun 90

[Text] After 48 hours of debate, an international conference of donor countries for Nicaragua concluded in Rome today with the approval of $120 million in cash

assistance as an additional emergency fund. The conference was attended by delegations from the 12 EEC countries, Japan, Canada, the United States, Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, Argentina, Brazil, Sweden, Norway, and Finland. The conference was also attended by representatives of the IMF, the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and specialized UN agencies.

This conference, which follows the one held in Stockholm in May, had planned to gather together a $350-million emergency fund, and this goal was achieved if we take into consideration the $230 million approved by the U.S. Congress before this meeting. In addition, it was announced that Nicaragua could have another $180 million available in 1991.

In the opinion of the president of the Bank of Nicaragua, the results of the conference not only fulfilled the objectives, but were higher than expected.

According to Sergio Ramirez, historic leader of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN], who attended the conference as an opposition representative in the Nicaraguan delegation, the conference made a great effort, which demonstrates the interest of the international community.

President Comments on Donors' Aid

PA0806220490 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1658 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Text] Managua, 8 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—Nicaraguan President Violeta Chamorro said today that the aid obtained at the International Conference of Donor Countries in Rome will be used "for the people" and "not for individuals."

The conference, which ended on 7 June in Rome, approved only $120 million of the $350 million requested by Chamorro's government to rebuild the devastated Nicaraguan economy.

After receiving the physical installations of the film library [cinemateca] from the Swedish "People's Film" group and Swedish Ambassador in Managua Harald Falth, Chamorro described as "positive" the aid granted by the 12 countries of the European Community, Japan, Canada, the United States, Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, Argentina, Brazil, Sweden, Norway, and Finland.

President Chamorro said that the $120-million "donation" was granted "spontaneously" by the "friendly" countries of Europe to Nicaragua for the purpose of rebuilding this country "as soon as possible."

Regarding the contras' demobilization process, Chamorro said there will be "good news" on 10 June, the deadline for the disarmament which began on 8 May.

Politicians Discuss Aid

PA0906191690 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2018 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Text] Managua, 8 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—Government and opposition politicians expressed similar opinions today in describing the $120 million of aid granted by the international conference of donor countries to Nicaragua as "insufficient."

The conference, which adjourned today in Rome after 48 hours of debates, approved $120 million of the $350 million of assistance requested by Violeta Chamorro's government to stabilize the economy, invigorate agriculture, and correct the economic imbalances of this Central American nation.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman released a communique today describing the assistance obtained by Nicaragua at the donors' conference as "successful."

Adolfo Jarquin, vice president of the Social Democratic Party, part of the National Opposition Union (UNO), winner of the February elections, told ACAN-EFE that "we expected to get more than $120 million" from the conference in Italy.

Jarquin said that the $120 million are "vital" in rebuilding Nicaragua's economy, but added that the amount is "insufficient" to solve the economic crisis faced by the country.

"It must not be forgotten that Nicaragua urgently requires assistance from the international community to extricate itself from its integral crisis," he stressed, adding that "more assistance" is necessary.

Jarquin, who is also a deputy for the UNO at the National Assembly, controlled by UNO's "bloc," said that "the government's representatives explained to the international community that it is urgent that Nicaragua receive a very large amount of aid in order to put its economic stabilization program into motion."

Edmundo Jarquin, Sandinist deputy and second secretary of the National Assembly, "deplored" that the assistance granted by the donors conference "is not enough."

In statements to ACAN-EFE, the former Nicaraguan ambassador to Spain during the Sandinist administration said that representatives of the previous administration had already "signed contracts for over one half" of the money obtained by the Chamorro admnistration.

The Sandinist politician added that for this reason the assistance obtained by the delegation headed by Foreign Minister Enrique Dreyfus "is substantially less than what the Nicaraguan Government had expected to get and what the country needs for its stabilization."

"We feel that the exceptional nature of Nicaragua's case has not been sufficiently realized," the Sandinist deputy said, calling for more resources for this nation, which has

been subjected to "war and a financial and trade embargo imposed by the United States."

Moises Hassan, deputy for the Movement of Revolutionary Unity, also deplored that the funds obtained in Italy are not the amount Nicaragua needs.

Hassan, who was a member of the first provisional junta of the Sandinist revolutionary government, of which he is now a critic, said that even though "it is not fully satisfying," the $120 million in aid will make a "sort of economic takeoff" possible.

"The assistance is positive but, I repeat, it is one third of what was requested in Italy," Hassan said. He added that he would have liked the government delegation to have obtained "more aid."

Article Praises Chamorro Administration

PA1006180790 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 6 Jun 90 p 4

[Article by Pedro Joaquin Chamorro: "Nicaragua Achieves Lasting Peace"]

[Text] With the signing of the "Managua Protocol on Disarmament" on 30 May, the government of Violeta Chamorro has taken a huge step toward lasting peace. It has granted broad political and economic benefits to the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN]. The new agreement calls for the total disarming of the RN and for the creation of 20 "development centers" where the fighters and their relatives are to live. The agreement also establishes the possibility of the RN becoming a political party and opens the possibility of some of its members participating in the government and others in a police force that would function in the new settlements or "development centers."

If the participants fully comply with this agreement, it could become a model for other countries enduring domestic armed conflicts and, more importantly, the Chamorro administration would have a great lever for forcing a drastic reduction of the Sandinist Army and the disarming of Sandinist mass organizations.

The agreement should also open the doors to a climate of stability that undoubtedly will bring back the Nicaraguan exiled sector, as well as national and foreign investors, which are necessary for the country's economic takeoff.

It is still too early to see the benefits of the two most important achievements of the Chamorro administration in its first 30 days, which were upset by a public employees' strike and a growing inflation rate that has further hurt the economy of the Nicaraguans.

Nevertheless, the truth is that the Chamorro administration has done in only 30 days what the Sandinist government was unable to do in 10 years: It has definitely stopped the war and has normalized relations with the United States, which now, instead of supporting the anti-Sandinist guerrillas, has constructively donated $300 million for the country's development.

This cooperation agreement between Nicaragua and the United States was solemnly signed only one day after the signing of the "Managua Protocol on Disarmament." It could serve to encourage other countries into making donations to help save Nicaragua's battered economy.

On 6 and 7 June, donating countries will hold an important meeting in Rome, Italy. The authorities of the new Nicaraguan Government expect to collect from $200 to $300 million at that meeting. This would be a new success.

The signing of the "Managua Protocol on Disarmament" was secured thanks to three prominent people who made every effort to see that the negotiations concluded successfully following weeks of meetings. There was the conciliatory and receptive personality of the president, a woman and a mother; the strong and confident personality of Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo; and the negotiating skills of General Humberto Ortega, who kept a low profile during the entire process, but carried the weight of the negotiations with the rebels and made huge efforts so that the negotiations could conclude successfully.

Following this achievement, the controversial General Ortega has to tackle two objectives that were set for him by the president in her inaugural address: He has to disarm thousands of Sandinist civilians who were armed as a result of their electoral defeat, and he has to present to the president a specific plan on how to gradually reduce the powerful Sandinist Army, the size of which could no longer be justified following the RN demobilization.

During this month a new national dialogue aimed at promoting the country's stability and directing the nation's efforts toward production instead of politics could happen in Nicargua. This dialogue or political agreement is necessary because the agreement signed before the presidential inauguration, the agreement known as the "Transition Protocol," enjoys no political support and has been rejected by important sectors of the population.

This is why a far-reaching political pact is necessary. It is necessary to reach an agreement like the "Punto Fijo" pact signed in Venezuela by the Venezuelan political parties following the fall in 1956 of the Perez Jimenez dictatorship.

The most rational Nicaraguan politicians are beginning to see the need for a national dialogue that could produce some sort of political truce, thereby allowing the country to overcome the current economic problems and forever eradicate the threat of chaos and civil war which looms over our society.

UNO 'Activists' Trained as Chamorro's Guards

PA0606012590 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 1 Jun 90 pp 1, 6

[Text] Over 50 activists of the defunct UNO [National Opposition Union], who are the followers of the ruling group that surrounds President Violeta Chamorro, are currently being trained in the Walter Mendoza School of the Sandinist Police to serve as personal security guards for the government.

Part of this group staged a shameful verbal aggression that nearly turned into physical violence when a reporter and a photographer from BARRICADA went to the training site to verify this information. A short young man with fair skin and black hair arrogantly shouted to the reporters: "Get out of here, and that is an order." He then added: "Get out of here, immediately. I do not want to see you here," as he threatened this newspaper's staff members.

Meanwhile, some 30 individuals who were being trained at the target range surrounded the reporters and insulted them. When the photographer made a slight involuntary movement with his camera, the future security guards thought he was going to take their picture so they quickly surrounded him and shouted they would take his film away. Three of those who were training started to walk straight ahead to some targets, and when they were about two meters from the targets, they abruptly stopped, pulled out their guns, and loaded them.

When this newspaper's reporters arrived, those who were undergoing personal security training abandoned their martial behavior. They suspended their exercises and approached the reporters in a threatening attitude. They were wearing the same uniforms as the Sandinist Police, but they were not wearing any badges or any of the other emblems the policemen usually wear. After the initial moments in which everything seemed to indicate they were about to become violent, the leader of the group flatly refused to answer questions on the kind of training they were receiving.

As the situation worsened, a policeman who had accompanied the reporters to the training site had to call an officer who at the time was acting director of the school, to prevent any regrettable situation. The officer intervened in a firm yet courteous manner and pointed out to the angry group leader that they were in a military school and should observe the rules and not offend visitors.

Later, the BARRICADA reporters were authorized by Government Minister Carlos Hurtado to interview the persons who were being trained. However, spokesman Frank Cesar did not carry out his superior's orders.

The group of UNO political activists is registered in the Physical Protection Area which is a special department of the Sandinist Police to protect the government leaders. The majority of the members of the group have completed between the ninth to 11th grade of high school, and some of them have even completed a third year in business administration in college.

They began training at the Walter Mendoza School about 15 days ago—that is, shortly before the much-publicized government employees' strike. This coincidence led some of the media to become confused and erroneously report that a group of contras were in that school and were going to be used to suppress the strikers.

Though intensive, the three-month course will not make them experts, but it will provide them with basic knowledge so they can start working as bodyguards for the president and several members of the cabinet. The instructors are Nicaraguan Sandinist Police experts. Initially, it was said that some of the Venezuelans who are guarding President Chamorro would be providing training, but they were dismissed because of their poor technical knowledge. As it was felt the Sandinist Police were not to be trusted, the group was to be sent to Venezuela. However, the Government Ministry finally decided to send them to the Walter Mendoza School, where they are receiving infantry and target shooting classes as part of their military training, karate for their personal defense, guarding techniques, and other aspects of personal safety.

This is the first contingent of the new government to formally join the current Armed Forces. In view of the high professional level of the Sandinist Police, it is not ruled out that the government officials will continue to take advantage of their expertise for the training of new military structures with ideological similarities.

The group has specific orders not to carry out any political activities within the military institution; however, this has caused some problems for the staff of the school. For example, they have insulted a cook several times merely because she mistakenly used the word "companero," which is highly offensive to them.

Also, ever since the group arrived at the school, UNO slogans have been painted on the walls. The school officers have advised them to behave properly.

Several members of the group are close to Alfredo Cesar and Carlos Hurtado, and some were members of the Sandinist Police, who were dismissed several years ago for various reasons. Some of them also evaded military service.

Apparently this group will replace the Venezuelans who have been the president's bodyguards up to now. However, if they are going to act like they did with the BARRICADA reporters, the president will surely have plenty of problems.

As is known, the president and her cabinet members are sources of information, and therefore reporters from the various progovernment and opposition media frequently surround them. Judging from the way this newspaper's

reporters were attacked, the new bodyguards will not know how to tolerate the presence of any opposition reporters.

Minister Carlos Hurtado will have to talk to his boys to prevent any regrettable situations, because if they did not know how to behave adequately in the school, where these future bodyguards are still under the authority of the Sandinist Police, what can one expect when they are out in the streets?

Perhaps they will try to again bring out the repressive corps of the Somoza days.

Soviet Official Briefs Authorities on Summit

PA1006181390 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 7 Jun 90 p 2

[Text] After the U.S.-USSR summit meeting, Yuriy Pavlov, chief of the Latin American Department of the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs has visited Mexico, Nicaragua, and Cuba. While in those countries, he examined their situations and reported on the results of the summit meeting to the heads of those countries.

Regarding Nicaragua, Pavlov told a government delegation, headed by Antonio Lacayo, minister of the presidency, that the two superpowers have agreed to help the country. Both expressed satisfaction with the Nicaraguan elections.

According to government sources, Pavlov gave the Nicaraguan Government extensive details on other topics discussed by U.S. President George Bush and USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev at their recent summit meeting in Washington.

Pavlov said that El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Cuba were other issues in the talks. He also said that the two presidents reached a broad agreement on chemical weapons, normalizing trade relations, and buying U.S. grain.

Pavlov, who was in Nicaragua for less than 24 hours, also met with an oppositon delegation headed by Daniel Ortega.

Panama

Column Says U.S. Displeased With Government

PA0706181590 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 6 Jun 90 p3

[From the "Tips and Leaks" column]

[Text] The United States Government has been meeting with several former Torrijist Panamanian presidents. We know for sure that the spiteful Aristides Royo and also Ricardo la Espriella have met unofficially with U.S. State Department officials. It has been reported that Jimmy Lakas and Ricardo Arias Espinoza might be invited.

The reason for this? Do not take our word for it, but an opposition spokesman said that the yankees are very concerned "with the inability of the present government, which has not solved any problems." The spokesman added that there is almost a power vacuum in Panama," and that is why the Yankees are exploring alternatives. [quotation marks as published]

President Endara on Draft of Media Law

PA1106040090 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1827 GMT 7 Jun 90

[Speech by President Guillermo Endara Galimany at a luncheon hosted by the Panamanian Radio Broadcasting Association in Panama City—live]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen: I am very pleased to share this luncheon with all of you, and I thank you for inviting me to this first of a series of monthly luncheons which the Panamanian Radio Broadcasting Association [APR] has started.

Let us hope that this practice will become a permanent activity so that this forum will be an additional, serious, and responsible instrument to disseminate information and help create a public opinion based on truth and devoid of any prejudice.

In today's Panama, we need a well-informed public because our nation and our society will be the result of everyone's contribution and participation. To make this contribution valuable and constructive, the public must have a clear understanding of our situation.

We would be doing ourselves and future generations a disservice if we were to lose time and energy trying to build a kind of Tower of Babel that lacks a clear view of our country's situation and our possibilities.

Dark times have ended in Panama. This is my promise and my position. The use or manipulation of the media by the government to tell lies and cover up the truth should never happen again. We must respect the intelligence of Panamanians. We must trust the people and always tell them nothing but the truth.

Practically since the beginning of my government, I ordered a review of all media laws and regulations. There are laws and regulations that have been applied over the past 21 years. These laws have not guaranteed, but have instead curtailed and limited, the basic rights that I wish to protect and develop.

I feel that my administration is guaranteeing the rights to information and freedom of expression and that our society is fully enjoying these rights. However, we must spell out these rights in our laws clearly and permanently so that there will be no doubts about them, so that they will be known, and so that they will not depend on the philosophical position of the government that is in power.

Now that I am referring to the review of these laws, I would like to break away from my speech to give you some good news. Approximately one hour ago, Ricardo Arias Calderon, the first vice president and government and justice minister, and I signed Executive Decree No. 229 of 7 June. This decree amends Article 6 of Decree 155 of 1962 which was amended by Executive Decree 13 of 1987. The 1987 amendment limited, or actually controlled, transfers and changes in the board of directors of radio stations. These transfers and changes could not be made without prior government consent. Thus, the government was meddling in a completely private activity that affected private property and freedom of expression.

The government minister and I just signed a new decree. Its final portion, which is the portion you are all interested in, states: Any changes made in the board of directors mentioned in this article—in other words in radiobroadcasting enterprises—will have to be reported to the government and Ministry of Justice. [applause]

I will now continue with my written speech. We have made progress in the preparation of the first draft of a law that will regulate everything concerning the media.

I must emphasize that it is a first draft that is being prepared after the hard and exhaustive work of a commission made up of a majority of groups involved in this area. I am referring to the National Journalists' Association, the Journalists Union of Panama, the Panamanian Association of Public Relations Professionals, owners of publicity and media firms, the Catholic Church, and other similar organizations that have worked on this draft in coordination with the Media Directorate.

After a final review, this draft will be discussed by the Cabinet. Then it will be sent to the Legislative Assembly and follow the usual procedures to become a law. It will become a law after it has been reviewed and discussed at the legislature; that is how it is done in a democratic regime.

I think that we must strive to make a good media law. It must be a good law not only because of its contents and its regulations, but also because of what it excludes. It should be a good law that protects society and its citizens against any criminal or quasi-criminal abuse. At the same time, it must guarantee the right to information and freedom of expression.

My government is also working on other areas of communications. I am referring to the issue of assigning radio frequencies. We must recall that radio frequencies were assigned to friends of the dictatorship for 21 years, thus limiting the possibility for true pluralism in media ownership.

I want to guarantee access to radio ownership to any citizen, regardless of his political affiliation. He will be guaranteed this access whether he supports my government or not and whether he criticizes it or not. Other criteria should be used to grant these frequencies, such as moral solvency and administrative or technical capacity. A citizen's political affiliation should never be considered. What kind of democracy would we be building if this were the case?

We are reviewing matters related to the National Censorship Board. We want to guarantee a scientific assessment of movies, ads, and other programs carried over the media. It is not a matter of censorship or arbitrarily preventing the public from viewing something. It is a matter of respecting the moral, ethical, and cultural values of Panamanian society. It is a matter of finding the right balance between freedom of expression and the right to be informed.

There is much to be done. I must confess that I sometimes feel that we do not have enough time and resources to do what we have to do. However, we must be patient because, even if we wanted to, we could not do everything in one, two, or three days. The important thing is that we do what must be done and we do it right, or at least in the best way possible and with much goodwill. The important thing is for the people to help and give ideas. The important thing is for the rulers to listen and pay attention, whether it is to confirm that we are on the right track or to change the course when we are not.

Let us not move faster than we can. Let us not move faster than our strength will allow; otherwise, we will begin to improvise and make mistakes.

I thank you again for your kind invitation. I urge you to continue working with determination to create a national awareness of the citizens' rights and a group awareness of the ethical principles that must be the basis of professional work. Thank you. [applause]

Prosecutor Requests Noriega Be Tried

PA0906155490 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 6 Jun 90 p 1

[Report by Nubia Aparicio S.]

[Text] Argentina Barrera, fourth prosecutor of the first judicial district has requested that Manuel Antonio Noriega be tried for not turning the Panama Defense Forces [FDP] over to the Executive Branch on 25 February, 1988, when former president Eric A. Delvalle dismissed him from his post.

According to Barrera, Noriega's action is a crime against national security, as established in Articles 301 and 302 of the Penal Code. Attorney Arturo Vallarino filed the charges at the Attorney General's Office on 19 February.

Explaining Vallarino's charges, the prosecutor has said that the former FDP commander did not fulfill his duty of relinquishing command of the FDP to the Executive Branch on 25 February 1988. At that time, the Executive Branch was represented by former president Eric A.

Delvalle, who decreed that Noriega had to retire. He also decreed that former Colonel Marco Justines would replace Noriega.

However, former FDP spokesmen said that instead of Noriega retiring, the president of the Republic had to retire, which is what happened. "He is the one who is leaving," a former high-ranking military officer said shortly after Delvalle had dismissed Noriega from his post.

Asked if other former officers are involved in this case, the prosecutor said that the lawsuits do not include other FDP members.

Barrera said: "It is legal to summon Noreiga, as we have recommended to the pertinent judicial officials, so that he can respond to the charges against him. This request was submitted to the Judicial Branch as prosecutor's case No. 258."

Barrera added that in this case the sentence may range from 15 to 20 years in prison, as established in Articles 301 and 302 of the Penal Code, given the crime, not placing the FDP at the disposal of the Executive Branch, as outlined in the legal precepts cited above.

Noriega has already been summoned to stand trial on charges of torture and human rights violations against journalist Homero Londono and Civic Crusade leader Alberto Conte.

Government Lifts Restrictions on Time Deposits

PA1006012590 Panama City Circuito
RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Statement by Guillermo Ford, second vice president and planning and economic policy minister; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] I am pleased to inform the people that we decided today not to extend the restrictions imposed on the time deposits. The last restriction was imposed in December 1989 and will be lifted on 9 July. This means that the restrictions on all time deposits will be lifted and that the banking system will return to normal as of 9 July. In a responsible manner, and through the National Banking Commission—which includes private bankers, government ministers, and the general manager of the National Bank of Panama—the government has decided that the time has come to implement the measures that we have been drafting for the past six months. Therefore, we are very pleased to advise the national and international community of the total normalization of the banking system as of 10 July, the deadline for the restrictions imposed in December as a result of the original restrictions imposed by the dictatorship in March 1988.

Commerce Minister on Commercial Activity

PA0806042790 Panama City Circuito
RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 7 Jun 90

[Text] The Ministry of Commerce and Industries has issued more than 2,000 commercial licenses which, according to the Ministry, will help create 8,000 new jobs. Here is Minister of Commerce Juan Chevalier.

[Begin Chevalier recording] The Ministry of Commerce and Industries has issued more than 2,870 new commercial licenses, and this means the opening of 2,879 new businesses. Experts on the subject have estimated that this will result in the creation of more than 8,000 jobs.

The industrial field has experienced sustained, although not spectacular, growth. The manufacturing industry in its various forms—I mean beer and liquor, cigarrettes, clothing, shoes, etcetera—is showing an increase in sales. In some cases, it has even reported record sales or production during the past few months.

All of this reflects a recovery. As I once said, we must congratulate ourselves as Panamanians. We are hard-working people; we have very creative executives who did not wait for U.S. aid to start reconstructing our country.

[Reporter] The Free Zone users recently complained about the U.S. embargo on the export of some products to countries like Cuba. Has any agreement been reached in that regard?

[Chevalier] That is a U.S. decision; it is not our decision. We have normal commercial relations with Cuba, and we cannot act as policemen for other countries. [end recording]

Msgr. Emiliani Sees 'No Room For Military'

PA0606230590 Panama City EL SIGLO DOMINICAL in Spanish 3 Jun 90 p 9

[Report by Aneldo Arosemena]

[Text] "There is no climate or room for the military in Panama anymore," according to Msgr. Romulo Emiliani, president of the Catholic Church Episcopal Commission on the Media. The top Catholic prelate called for the creation of a highly trained police force, to specialize in fighting crime, "but there should definitely be no army or military force in the country," he added.

Romulo Emiliani, a young man with a strong Christian calling who is said to be a top candidate to become Panama's next archbishop, began to stand out in the media through his convincing sermons, "A Message to the Heart," which in a few months earned him a top position within the Panamanian Catholic hierarchy.

Later on during a luncheon, which the Episcopal Commission offered to the media, Emiliani discussed with EL SIGLO the topics of militarism, corruption, and social injustice.

Despite stating that Panama does not need soldiers or armies, the top Catholic prelate did say that a military career is as worthy as any other career "and we must save it." He added that a military career can train people very well, "but there is definitively no climate or room for the military in Panama," the prelate said.

Msgr. Emiliani said that there cannot be reconciliation without justice. He added that justice must be exercised in an exemplary manner "so that we can all learn." He said that justice must be exercised with mercy and understanding by taking into account that during the previous regime, many people were pressured and manipulated into making mistakes. "It must be understood that poor people who acted in a certain way did so because they had no other choice," the religious leader said.

Emiliani said that he agreed that militarism was the leading cause of corruption. He said that military officers went beyond fulfilling their duty, which was to safeguard the fatherland and the Panamanian people. He said that the military became involved in government. "I think that was their first mistake, but there were other factors that promoted corruption, such as cultural, economic, and social factors," said the bishop, who added, "we did not even want to attend mass any longer."

One of the points that we were interested to learn was the opinion of the president of the Catholic Church Episcopal Commission on the Media was the role of the media under the current political and social conditions in the country, especially the controversial charges made by EL SIGLO against those who took over the government by force for 21 years. In this regard, Emiliani said that in addition to reporting the social injustices, the media should also prepare society to dream of a better future that can motivate us all and that can open up roads of hope.

"The stage of accusations being made is going quite well and this has allowed us to see all the social wounds and horrible sins of the past, but we must turn our eyes toward the present and the future so that we can plan for the country's complete recovery with hope," the Darien Province vicar said.

Msgr. Emiliani broached the controversial topic of "reconciliation" as proposed by the democratic government. From an eminently Christian perspective, he said that reconciliation means that we are all Panamanians possessing the same right to participate in the efforts to rebuild our country. He said, "however, those who are guilty of crimes and embezzlement must be punished." He also said that anyone who is not involved in serious offenses, even though he participated in the previous regime as a government employee or a member of the Defense Forces, should join in rebuilding the country.

Referring to the country's reconstruction after the 20 December political and social trauma, Emiliani said that Panamanians must realize that the people should forge their own development. He said, "foreign aid is acceptable," but warned that this aid must be granted in independence and autonomy, so that the people can trust in their own strength.

He said, "we Panamanians can change things. We have enough well-trained people. We can bring about radical change."

Emiliani has the patience of a man of faith and conviction. We noticed that he has a magnetism rarely seen in a religious leader. He looks more like a leader of the masses than a clergyman. We say this because at the end of the interview he said that to overcome the 21 years of dictatorship, we must have great love for democracy and for the democratic principles of respect for human beings and goodwill.

Finally he said, "each Panamanian must think harder, and be able to understand, analyze, and apply human moral values."

Public Force Retirement Decree Examined

PA0706162190 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 2 Jun 90 p 9-A

[Text] Following is published the full text of Decree No. 221 of 17 May 1990, "through which measures concerning the Public Force [FP] are adopted."
The decree was published in the Official Gazette No. 21.548 of 31 May 1990.
Government and Justice Ministry
Decree No. 221 (of 17 May 1990)
"Through which measures concerning the Public Force are adopted."
The President of the Republic, by his legal authority,
Decrees:

Article One: FP members assigned to any of the FP components—National Police, National Air Service, National Maritime Service, and the Institutional Protection Service—will have the right to a monthly retirement pension after 20 years of continuous service.

Article Two: Retirement from active duty after 20 years of continuous service will be granted under the following condition:
A. Because of diminished psycho-physical capabilities.
B. Because of professional incompetence.
C. Because of faulty conduct.
D. At the request of the interested party.
E. Because the (FP member's) age exceeds the maximum age corresponding to his rank.

Article Three: The FP may request a member's removal from active duty any time after 20 years of continuous service, which will be granted when there are no special reasons of service that may require their permanence on duty. In this case, the monthly retirement payment will be 70 percent of the most recent gross salary.

Article Four: FP members who do not meet the psycho-physical conditions specified in police regulations will be removed from active duty.

The monthly payment in this case will be calculated at 70 percent of the most recent basic salary.

The decrease in psycho-physical capabilities will be determined and certified by Social Security Fund [CSS] physicians and will be ratified by the CSS Medical Board.

Article Five: Professional incompetence will be determined under the following cases:

A. When the [FP member] fails professional training courses required for a promotion.

B. When the [FP member] fails training courses, police training course, and other courses scheduled by the FP through any of [the FP] components.

C. At the recommendation of the Personnel Evaluating Board of any of the FP components.

D. Following instructions from the president of the republic and the pertinent ministry.

The monthly retirement payment for professional incompetence will be calculated at 50 percent of the most recent gross salary.

Article Six: FP members will be dismissed for faulty conduct at the request of the Director General of the respective component in the following cases:

A. According to the Disciplinary Regulations, when the [FP member] records show repeated grave misconduct, and after disciplinary sanctions have been imposed.

B. When the [FP member] has committed more than one very serious fault of service, responsibility, or conduct.

C. At the recommendation of the Disciplinary Board because of the seriousness of the fault committed.

D. When instructed by the President of the Republic and the respective minister.

Taking into account some previous sums allotted, the monthly payment will be set at 50 percent of the most recent gross salary.

Article Seven: Retirement will be compulsory for FP members who, having completed 20 continuous years on duty, exceed the maximum age for their rank. In this case, the assigned monthly payment will be 70 percent of the gross salary.

The age corresponding to each rank will be determined by the respective duty regulations of the FP.

Article Eight: As stated in the current regulations, the monthly retirement benefits will be charged to the Complementary Fund, according to the regulations applicable to special retirements.

Article Nine: In the case of voluntary retirement, officially, or at the request of the interested party, the Personnel Department from the corresponding FP component will make the necessary arrangements for the corresponding social benefits mentioned in the present regulations.

Retirement benefits will be acknowledged through a resolution that will be issued by the ministry that has under its administrative responsibility the pertinent FP component .

Article 10: For processing the social benefits to which this regulation refers, the pertinent Personnel Department shall require the following documents:

1. The interested person's retirement request whenever this retirement is voluntary or when the request is based on his or her psychological or physical disability. The grounds for the request shall be specified.

2. A medical certificate issued by CSS physicians and approved by the CSS Medical Board whenever retirement for psychological or physical disability is involved.

3. A certificate issued by the Personnel Evaluation Board or the Chief of Personnel, as the case may be, of the department to which the interested person belongs. The document shall certify that the interested person does not possess the professional capability required by either the regulations of the department for which he is working, whenever retirement for professional inability is involved, or the respective ministerial ordinance in cases when the president of the republic and the respective ministry so stipulate.

4. If the retirement request is filed for misbehavior, the director of the respective FP department shall certify, according to the causes pointed out in Article 6 of this regulation, that the member has fallen under one of them or has violated pertinent instructions given by the president of the republic or the corresponding ministry.

5. A photocopy of the involved person's cedula.

6. A certificate issued by the Supply and Finance Department stating the person's last salary.

7. Birth certificate.

8. A certificate issued by the Department of Personnel attesting that the member has served for 20 consecutive years.

Article 11: This regulation shall be effective on the day of its promulgation.

Article 12: Resolution 60 of May 17 1990, "which regulates Paragraph C of Article 63 of Law 20 of 1983," is hereby rendered null and void.

Panama City, 17 May 1990.

For release and publication.

Guillermo Endara Galimany, president of the republic; Ricardo Arias Calderon, minister of government and justice.

Linares on Creating Blocs Against Dictators

PA0806034790 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 7 Jun 90 p A1

[Report by Nubia Aparicio S.]

[Text] When Foreign Minister Julio Linares had presented a draft law based on the Bethancourt Doctrine before the Legislative Assembly, he said that the government will try to reform the OAS charter. He added that "we will struggle at the United Nations and at all international organizations to create an international bloc against dictators so that the case of Panama will be a lesson to all, with no exceptions."

He said that "in this manner, the people will distinguish between those who defend freedom and those who play with words and with the rights of the citizens who have been deprived of their freedom and democracy."

Linares said that the Panamanians were left without any rights as citizens and in a state of anguish as a nation. The hemispheric community inexplicably aligned itself with the dictator, and some local politicians resigned themselves to defend the Noriega regime.

He pointed out that with no friendly forum from which to speak and without any international support, the Panamanian people were deprived of any instruments, because only the government representatives could speak about a truth that no one believed.

"Because of the mysterious and magic means used by the authoritarian regime, the people and democracy were confused by the assassins," Linares added. He said that "the OAS and the United Nations only heard the speeches of the oppressors."

The foreign minister emphasized that, through a sovereign will, this Republic "wants to include something in its legislation so that we will never again be in solidarity with any government that is fraudulent or is the result of a coup."

Colon Termed 'Second Most Dangerous City'

PA0906190790 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 7 Jun 90 pp a-1, a-2

[Report by James Aparicio]

[Text] Alcibiades Gonzalez, mayor of Colon, told LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA yesterday that Colon is on its way to "total destruction," and its economic system could collapse under the weight of grave housing, unemployment, health problems, and government disregard.

The city of Colon was founded 138 years ago. It has a port, a refinery, a cement factory, the Colon Free Zone, and half the canal. It is considered to be the second most dangerous city in Latin America, and it is Panama's poorest.

Gonzalez said: "There is no specific program to fight unemployment." He said that crime, squatters, the lack of a sewer system, garbage, and scarce police protection are some of the problems Colon is facing.

Pharmacies do not open at night because of fear they may be robbed. Most businesses are protected by iron bars "as if there was a war going on," the mayor said.

Gonzalez noted: "If we keep going this way, we will soon be facing the total destruction of the province and the shattering of its economic system." The mayor reported that each eight-hour shift has only 115 policemen giving protection "to the entire province." Because of this, he said, criminal elements have been able to sell protection, "like in the movies," and drug traffickers operate freely.

Gonzalez urged the central government authorities "to leave in Colon" the money that the province generates because "we cannot repair the republic when the source of money is being destroyed."

Gonzalez cautioned that the people of Colon "believe that in spite of having voted (five to one) for President Guillermo Endara (in the 7 May 1989 elections), they still have yet to see any kind of response from the government."

Gonzalez added: "We are witnessing how a full pot of money goes to Panama City every month and in return we get promises, promises, and more promises." Gonzalez recalled that no school has been built in the area in the past 15 years, and the local hospital has no instruments with which to function.

What is happening at the popular apartment house called Wilkood—whose residents were opposed to the overthrown General Manuel Antonio Noriega, had their electricity service cut, and endured pressure from the Housing Ministry—is a sign of the loss of patience on the part of the people of Colon.

On the roof of the old house black flags now fly, "as symbols of mourning," the residents say, because the new government has been in power five months already and their aspirations have not been fulfilled yet, and as Mayor Gonzalez has warned: "The people of Colon are about to explode."

Column Accuses Government of 'Militaristic Trend'

PA0606012990 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 2 Jun 90 p 14A

[Column by Roberto Arosemena Jaen: "The Government We Deserve"]

[Text] Truth is the reality stated by man. Truth is a coincidence. It is a consensus. Nobody can deny truth with impunity. He becomes a liar at heart or a liar of

convenience. The truth shall set us free. Lies enslave us to hidden things that one day will be revealed. To arrive at the truth demands knowing reality. What is the reality of the Endara government? What do we know of that reality?

We know that the Endara government found power in the early morning on 20 December. We also know that it received a mandate in the 7 May elections to take over the executive branch on 1 September. The people's mandate on 7 May, like all the popular mandates of the past decades, could not be implemented. Noriega, with the militarist power structure, made a mockery of the Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance [ADOC]. The invading troops took advantage of that mandate to justify their punitive action against the institution they had taught, financed, and trained. Once their punitive action was over, General Manuel Antonio Noriega was declared a prisoner of war with all the honors due his rank, and they offered their full support to the ADOC government to transform the army into a national police force.

We have an unsuspecting majority that feels the ADOC is ruling by virtue of the popular mandate expressed in the elections. On the other hand, we have remnants of the old political arm of the military, the PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party], who state that the legitimacy of the Endara government rests on the Electoral Tribunal resolutions. The reality of his government can only be stated as the result of the armed imposition of the U.S. Government. The Torrijos-Carter treaties served as a basis for the armed action, not the 7 May elections. Noriega's betrayal to a dependent militarism strengthened the decision to arrest him, not the violations of the human rights of his adversaries.

The ADOC government actions show its complacency with militarism and an estrangement from the civic postulates of its electorate. The PRD's participation in the legislative branch; Endara's embracing of the Electoral Tribunal magistrate and the PRD spokesman; the appointment of officials of the canal militarism [militarismo canalero], like Adolfo Ahumada and Rolando Murgas, to recommend amendments to the Torrijist constitution; and the incorporation of 81 percent of the lieutenants and 90 percent of the sublieutenants who supported Noriega into the Panamanian state's new police force, among other things, indicate that the ADOC government is maintaining the same militaristic trend that the people rejected.

The truth about the Endara government cannot be hidden. Its leaders are so fully aware of that reality that the ADOC government's first priority is to transform Noriega's forces into a public force. It is because of that priority that counsel from an intimate friend of Torrijos, Carlos Andres Perez, is sought. It is because of that priority that they make fools of themselves by defending repressors and naming submissive officials. It is because of that priority that they mobilize public opinion and get ready for dangerous constitutional amendments. ADOC holds militarism responsible for surrendering the country over to the United States, but fails to denounce the subservient and militaristic treaties. ADOC holds the 21-year-old dictatorship responsible for the country's ruin, and yet uses the political and social patterns of the dictatorship.

Not long ago, I argued that the challenge for the new generation is to build a consensus. Later, I read the speech by Mr. Mario Galindo, in which he said that freedom of expression is a tool to ensure democracy. Democracy is consensus and is exercised in liberty. Why is the ADOC government basing its actions on violence and faits accomplis? What organization of consensus has it promoted since it took office? Why are there no agencies to protect citizens under the command of district magistrates appointed on merit and professional training? Why does the government insist on picking quarrels with the countries of the world that accept the norms of international law?

The road opening up for Panamanians of goodwill is to resume the debate on militarism and civilian rule, on national defense and security based on violence or consensus, on the injustice of the economic and social system, and on the monopoly of the well-to-do and people with influence abroad on political activity.

Panama is a country of impositions. We have realities that were imposed on 11 October 1968, and realities that were imposed on 20 December 1989. Those realities took legal shape in the Torrijos-Carter treaties, the Constitution, and the laws used by the government to consolidate the ADOC political regime. The byzantine discussions over whether or not policemen should vote, whether or not to ban the army, or whether the Public Force should have this or that structure are distractions for a people who trust in a government that has done what the occupation troops have allowed them to do. The Panamanians' struggle to achieve democracy has not concluded.

The rising complaints from associations, civic movements, and the loyal opposition, which the PRD is organizing, indicate that the current government is not promoting democracy but partisan rule, or the rule by parties under the umbrella of U.S. interventionism. Now that the truth is prevailing, it is worth asking: Does it do any good to support a constitutional referendum? Or is it better to oust the government and then have a large constitutional dialogue?

Opposition Paper EL ISTMO Published

PA0806184690

[Editorial Report] A new tabloid-sized opposition newspaper, EL ISTMO, began to be sold in Panama City in the middle of May. The masthead identifies the newspaper in 3/4-inch block letters as "EL ISTMO," describes this issue as "Issue No. 1, May 1990. Panama, Territory to be Liberated," and cites the price as 25 centavos.

A small editorial box on page three identifies the director as Justo Arroyo; before 20 December 1989 Arroyo wrote a column for the pro-Noriega newspaper LA REPUBLICA. The newspaper gives its address as P.O. Box 87-1601, Zone 7, Panama, Republic of Panama, and states that it is laid out in the ULTIMAS NOTICIAS Publishing House. ULTIMAS NOTICIAS is the same company that prints another opposition newspaper of the same stripe, EL PERIODICO.

EL ISTMO's journalistic style is similar to that of EL PERIODICO. Its articles, caricatures, and poetry are all critical of the Endara government and of the U.S. actions in Panama. In addition to several unattributed articles, the 12-page issue carries articles signed by authors such as Griselda Lopez, a leftwing intellectual and former columnist for LA REPUBLICA, whose article "Panama, Neofascism in Action," charges that the current Panamanian Government is a perfect example of neofascism.

This issue also carries an article by Moises Torrijos Herrera praising his brother, the late Panamanian leader General Omar Torrijos, and a 600-word article by Luis Restrepo Rosas, another former columnist of LA REPUBLICA, who is well known for his virulent criticism of U.S. policy in the Panama Canal area. Restrepo's article, entitled "Zonian Cobweb," claims that the "bloody U.S. military invasion of Panama" responded to Washington's "strategy to refrain from complying with the 1977 treaties." An unattributed 1,000-word article, entitled "Does the M-20 Exist?," recounts the various terrorist actions attributed to the 20 December Movement, M- 20, and concludes: "A team of EL ISTMO analysts have reached the conclusion that a clandestine subversive network does exist, and that it is in a phase of growth and organization. Because of this, its members appear to lack firm principles on which a coherent plan of action can be drafted." The article adds: "EL ISTMO, which emerges without any commitment other than to achieve Panama's liberation from the invading troops, cannot agree with more bloodshed."

Issue No. 2 of EL SIGLO was observed for sale in the streets of Panama City on 28 May. Issue No. 2 bears the same masthead and editorial box as the previous issue, but the editorial box is published in a more prominent place on page two.

This issue includes another article by journalist Griselda Lopez, who says new leaders are emerging from adversity, and one by Giovanna Bennedetti, who says that "the gringos are invisible because no one sees them, no one questions them, and no one bothers them. After economically destroying a country, they invaded it militarily and occupied it politically, without officially being seen by anyone." The newspaper describes Benedetti as a "poet and a writer."

Issue No. 2 likewise carries an article by Luis Restrepo Rosas denouncing U.S. occupation of canal areas that had previously been returned to Panama, and another by Euclides Fuentes Arroyo—the acting secretary general of the pro-Noriega Journalists Union of Panama—criticizing the Endara government for not keeping its promises to promote national reconciliation, democracy, and honesty.

In an 2,500-word unattributed article on pages six and seven, entitled "Is the PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party] dying?," the newspaper analyzes the beginnings of the party since Gen Torrijos' times, defending the party's composition and its alliance with the military. The article claims that following the U.S. military action, PRD members have been systematically harrassed: They have been "persecuted, dismissed, jailed, or forced into exile." The article says that "to make its presence felt, the PRD must quickly overcome the trauma of the invasion....If it wants to maintain its former members and attract new ones, the party must suppress any desire to flagellate itself or commit hara-kiri and instead take the offensive." The article mentions PRD leaders who could take over the reins of the party at this time: former PRD Secretary General Ernesto Perez Balladares, former Panamanian Vice President Gerardo Gonzalez, PRD legislator Mario Rognoni, and PRD legislator Balbina de Perinan.

In the last page of this issue, EL ISTMO thanks the Panamanian people for the support they have given the newspaper, adding: "We view your support as a clear-cut repudiation of both the murdering invaders as well as their puppet collaborators."

PRD Reportedly Suffers Internal Disputes

PA0606040890 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 4 Jun 90 p 18

[Text] A serious internal division, accusations of treason, and the unchecked wish of a faction to take over the leadership of the Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD] all threaten to destroy the PRD. Those who express their desire for a real change in the party's leadership are accused of treason. A so-called leftist faction, which follows the guidelines of its leader Ramiro Vasquez Ch.—who is in exile in Mexico—is exerting pressure on the party. PRD President Carlos Duque and Ernesto "Toro" Balladares were publicly accused of fooling the Panamanian people through statements that distanced them from their intimate relationship with ousted dictator Noriega. Balladares responded to accusations by Carlos David Abadia by making a chronological list of his political activities in public posts, trying to show that his lucky star dimmed precisely when Manuel Noriega took over the imperial scepter in 1982. Carlos Duque maintains a deep silence over what is happening within the party and does not even defend himself from public accusations.

Balladares tries unsuccessfully to wash his hands and, like Ovigildo Herrera Jr., uses ideals of General Torrijo that the PRD does not know how to maintain or project. Balladares tries unsuccessfuly to project an image when he addresses the disappointed PRD rank and file followers, although he believes that the leftist faction within

the PRD would back him when necessary. He wants to be president of Panama. The leftist faction wants to take over the party and, as is always the case, it accuses those who do not join it of being traitors. Because of these pressures, acting PRD Youth Secretary Ovigildo Herrera Jr. resigned, calling the faction "pseudo-Torrijist and supposedly left." His resignation proves that this faction is fulfilling what it set out to do by doing away with those who oppose it.

The PRD, on the other hand, is suggesting urgent reconstruction and reconciliation, as well as a general amnesty, because of the persecution of "distinguished" members. These members include former President Francisco Rodriguez and party secretary Darisnel Espino who, according to the PRD, are the victims of a "brutal human hunt." One may conclude from all this that the PRD leaders do not recall the persecution that the civilians—who were opposition members—suffered with the approval of the PRD.

The PRD rank and file who still work in the government are being carefully located and expelled from the PRD. This weakens the PRD. If it does not manage to reach an agreement as a compact unit, it will not be able to remain a strong party. It has become used to an umbrella that no longer exists: The 16,000 rifles of the defunct Defense Forces.

Lawyer Comments on Chorrillo Refugees, Claims

PA0606172190 Panama City Radio KW Continente in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Interview with Graciela Dixon, leader of the Revolutionary Party of the Workers and lawyer for the war refugees of El Chorrillo, by Carlos Anel Cordero; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Cordero] Graciela Dixon, lawyer for the war refugees of the El Chorrillo district, has reported that she and her clients are working with lawyers, congressmen and other people in the United States, one of whom is Reverend Jesse Jackson, former Democratic presidential hopeful.

[Dixon] We are preparing to receive in the next few days a delegation of U.S. congressmen with whom we are working. They are coming to Panama on a fact-finding mission about the events that took place on 20 December. Furthermore, after a trip to New York, through our own investigations, and work with some U.S. lawyers, we have gathered some evidence which proves the abuses committed by the U.S. Army and Government on our territory.

[Cordero] Ms. Dixon, a member of the U.S. Southern Command said recently that the United States will not pay any kind of compensation to people who were wounded or lost relatives in combat situations. Instead, payments will only be made for damages resulting from something other than combat situations. What is your opinion in this regard?

[Dixon] It is only logical to expect the U.S. Southern Command to make every effort to shirk its responsibility in this case. However, we also know the laws and procedures to follow and that is just what we are doing. We are adhering to procedures and the U.S. legislation includes an administrative procedure by which the avenues for collecting compensation and the obligation itself are established.

We know about this and we have been working with people who are very knowledgeable on the subject. We have been studying the laws on the actions of the various branches of the U.S. Armed Forces, such as the Air Force and infantry. We know what their legal obligations are regarding military actions like the one that was carried out in Panama on 20 December. Therefore, we are not worried or alarmed by the statements of this U.S. Army officer. We regard them as a maneuver to dissuade anyone who may be interested in filing claims. We are working on this matter and, in fact, are doing so with people who we know have influence on the various decisionmaking bodies in the United States, such as the U.S. Congress and even the Senate. We think that this claim will be paid through this channel and the administrative channel itself, well beyond what any subordiante U.S. Army officer may say.

[Cordero] You said some congressmen are coming. Who are they?

[Dixon] I can tell you now that we are working with Rev. Jesse Jackson of the United States. He will not be coming any time soon, but we know that other congressmen will. However, we would like to keep their names for the time being because we are waiting for confirmation from some of them. In any event, the congressmen will most probably number five.

Lawsuit Filed Against Special Prosecutor

PA0606172090 Panama City CRITICA LIBRE in Spanish 5 Jun 90

[Report by Florencio Galvez F.]

[Text] Yesterday Prosecutor General Rogelio Cruz asked the Supreme Court of Justice to file a lawsuit against Rodrigo Miranda Morales for slander.

In a lengthy document sent to the magistrates, Prosecutor Cruz sent an indictment to the court with a complaint filed by Technical Judicial Police [PTJ] Chief Leslie Loaiza, who has sued Miranda for libel. Miranda had been designated special prosecutor on the Hugo Spadafora Franco investigation.

Cruz argued that Miranda overstepped his bounds when he produced newspaper clippings with statements on the case of Rodriguez Justines instead of the Spadafora case to which he had been assigned.

Once again, Cruz rejected the notion that Public Force and PTJ members are involved in the child's murder.

Miranda's statement about the Public Force and the PTJ being involved in the killing, does not represent a charge against Cruz. Quite the opposite, it shows Miranda's inability to prove the veracity of the charges filed against Captain Loaiza.

Italian Envoy Denies Pulice Sought Asylum

PA1106043390 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 9 Jun 90 p 18a

[Report by Manuel Alvarez Cedeno]

[Text] Enzo Montano, Italian ambassador to Panama, yesterday denied that Yolanda Pulice, former Electoral Tribunal president, sought asylum at the Italian diplomatic mission.

"That report is neither true nor accurate. Pulice did not seek asylum at the embassy or at the ambassador's residence," Montano told several reporters.

A newspaper and a radio station reported yesterday that Pulice, who has been wanted by Panamanian courts since last week, had sought asylum at the Italian mission.

Montano maintained that "there is a lot of speculation and fantasy" in such a report because there is no contact between embassy officials and the relatives of Pulice.

The ambassador explained that the European countries are not members of the Caracas Convention on the right to political asylum. Therefore, this right is rarely granted by a European embassy.

"There is normally no asylum granted at these embassies because it is a right developed and consolidated on this continent; therefore, only Latin American countries grant it." he said.

When asked if Pulice could seek refuge in that embassy because she is of Italian descent, he said that "the case would have to be studied. It would have to be determined if her father kept his Italian citizenship or if he adopted Panamanian citizenship."

Montano said that in order to check if Pulice has the right to Italian citizenship, it would first have to be proven that her parents did not lose that citizenship. He added that there are different situations, and Italian law has various legalities concerning the immigration of Italians.

Column on Anniversary of Civic Crusade

PA0906010190 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 8 Jun 90 p 1A

["As of Today" column]

[Text] On 7 June 1987, this newpaper published the sensational revelations made to our correspondent by Colonel Roberto Diaz Herrera, who had retired the week before. The next day was the start of the final struggle against the shameful regime euphemistically named the "process" by people enamored with the left. No one can now claim ignorance as an excuse to justify his inaction or indifference. The statements by Diaz Herrera, who until not long ago had been the number two man in the Panama Defense Forces, forced all of us to take to the streets. The National Civic Crusade [CCN], a confederation of civic and professional associations that led this dramatic, prolonged, and exhausting battle, was born on the night of 9 June.

All Panamanians placed ourselves under its white banner to fight the narco-dictatorship. Today will commemorate, with diverse activities, one of the most important dates in the political history of our fatherland. We are certain all the people will participate in the mass and in the great demonstration with which the commemorations will conclude.

Moreover, the task will remain unfinished so long as all the objectives the CCN established on behalf of the people are not met. There was a spontaneous uprising on 10 June in Panama City, in all its neighborhoods, from the poorest to the wealthiest. All social classes joined hands in the streets for the common goal of restoring democracy. It becomes necessary to strengthen that social unity to be able to rebuild the country and get it moving again. And in this task, the CCN will play the role of supreme leader.

Argentina

Government Reiterates Wish To Negotiate Falklands

PY0806203690 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2006 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Jun (TELAM) — Today the Argentine Government reiterated that "the resumption of diplomatic relations with Great Britain would help to create a favorable climate under which the two countries, through negotiations, could achieve a just, peaceful, and permanent solution and end the obsolete colonial situation that violates Argentina's territorial integrity."

[Words indistinct] disseminated by the Foreign Ministry on 10 June, the day of the reaffirmation of Argentina's rights over the Malvinas Islands and Atlantic sector, the national government "wishes to reiterate its firm desire to recover, through negotiations [words indistinct] the archipelago and the surrounding maritime area."

Further on Issue

PY1006032590 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0210 GMT 10 Jun 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Jun (NA) — Today the Argentine Government reiterated its "firm desire to recover through negotiations the exercise of its sovereignty over the Malvinas, the South Georgias, and the Sandwich Islands."

This assertion is contained in a communique that was released tonight by the Foreign Ministry on the occasion of commemorating, on 10 June, the 161st anniversary of the creation of the "Political and Military Command of the Malvinas Islands and its adjacents to Cape Horn in the Atlantic Sea."

"The Argentine Government wishes to express its conviction that the resumption of diplomatic relations with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland will contribute to create a propitious climate so that, through negotiations, the two countries can achieve a just, peaceful, and long lasting solution that will put an end to the anachronistic colonial situation that amputates Argentina's territorial integrity," the communique concludes.

Foreign Minister Cavallo Denies Resignation

PY0806234890 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2120 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Jun (EFE)—Argentine Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo, today "categorically" denied that he would resign following the changes made to a decree that granted a $135-million contract to Italy for they supply of equipment to Entel [National Telecommunications Enterprise].

The foreign minister denied his resignation during a news conference today following a meeting with the U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills, who arrived in Buenos Aires from Asuncion, Paraguay, to discuss the results of the last Uruguay round of GATT talks.

Asked if he intended to resign because of the Entel case, Cavallo answered that "we are happy with the way in which our relations are being handled with the rest of the world."

He added that "except for some unfortunate statements by Entel trustee Maria Julia Alsogaray, the situation is completely satisfactory."

As for the meeting with Carla Hills (who left the Foreign Ministry building without making any statement), Cavallo described the meeting as "very good" and he added that the U.S. official "explained to us the negotiations of the Uruguay round, which supports the liberation of prices of agricultural products."

Cavallo asserted that "we will support the U.S. position because we favor the lifting of subsidies," adding that "it is necessary to open markets and to eliminate the compensatory rights on Argentine products, which were subsidized."

Cavallo said that during the meeting "we analyzed subjects connected with bilateral and international trade" in face of the upcoming visit of U.S. President George Bush [passage indistinct] the embassies of the two countries "are currently negotiating an agreement on investment guarantees."

Cavallo on Support for U.S. at GATT Meeting

PY0906213890 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1805 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Jun (NA)—Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo today emphasized that "Argentina is willing to support the U.S. position at the GATT Uruguayan round of talks regarding the deregulation of the world grain trade." He made it clear, however, that "the United States must set an example by lifting its protectionist barriers."

The minister made remarks to the journalists after meeting with Carla Hills, U.S. trade representative for international negotiations and a member of President George Bush's Cabinet. Hills was a member of the U.S. delegation to the OAS General Assembly that is meeting in Asuncion, Paraguay, where she met with President Carlos Menem.

Cavallo described his meeting with Hills as "very good" and pointed out that the goal of the visit by the Bush official was "to explain the progress of the negotiations on the GATT Uruguayan round of talks" and "to discuss trade issues linked to the Bush visit in September 1990."

Cavallo said that the U.S. representative asked for Argentine support for the U.S. position regarding the deregulation of the international trade in agricultural products." Cavallo said: "We have responded that we are willing to support their position because it will

permit our products to enter the international market, but the subsidies that are harming us will have to be removed."

Asked about the protectionist U.S. grain policy, Cavallo said: "It is essential for the U.S. Government to set the example by permitting entry to their markets." Cavallo added: "For example, the compensatory rights on Argentine products, which are still applied although our government has removed domestic subsidies, should be removed." The foreign minister reported that Argentina not only is willing to accept the deregulation of the grain trade but also that of the services and the textiles trades. Argentina is also willing to provide protection for copyrights on information science "software" [preceding word in English] and to medical patents and trademarks, he added.

Cavallo said that "this means to negotiate and, therefore, one must give and take." He added: "The investor countries—such as the United States and Japan—are proposing that the nations receiving capital and technology must protect their patents." "We are willing to respect copyrights, but we want our scientific development and technology to be respected and promoted," the minister pointed out. Cavallo added: "In addition, we need guarantees that this recognition of copyrights will not prevent consumers, especially of medicines, from gaining access to the products."

Concerning the issue of patents and trademarks of medicine, Cavallo reported that the government is conducting studies and a survey "so that our industry can develop new products and its domestic market is not harmed. [no closing quotation marks as received] The foreign minister announced that after the GATT meeting a draft bill on this issue would be submitted to the national Congress.

"Argentina must be integrated into the world, it must attract investments and, therefore, it must respect the laws that govern international trade," Cavallo pointed out.

Asked about probable U.S. investments in our country, Cavallo explained that we are working on this at the Argentine Embassy in Washington and at the U.S. mission in our capital.

The government [words indistinct] favorable atmosphere for investments, but their magnitude will depend on the bankers and the businessmen," the foreign minister said. [quotation marks as received]

Cavallo denied that he had thought of tendering his resignation over disagreements about the handling of the privatization of Entel [National Telecommunications Enterprise]. He emphasized: "I am very pleased about handling Argentina's relations with the rest of the world."

The foreign minister explained: "Concerning the purchase of equipment for the Argentine telephone enterprise from an Italian company, an agreement signed with Italy was respected." He said: "We worked on this seriously and honestly." Cavallo admitted, however, that this matter could have been tarnished by "some unfortunate remarks by Maria Julia Alsogaray, the Entel government trustee." "There are people who like very much to appear on television and radio," the minister noted.

President Menem Returns From 12-Day Tour

PY1006214090 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1600 GMT 10 Jun 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Jun (NA)—President Carlos Menem returned today from a 12-day tour that included stops on four continents. During a news conference he declined to comment on the crisis in his marriage or where he was going to stay.

Asked whether he was going to stay at the Olivos residence, he said that "I am going to stay where I am supposed to stay." He then added that he would not answer any questions "about my private life." It has been learned that Menem is planning to stay in an apartment on Gelli and Obes Streets.

The possibility of holding a cabinet meeting with Menem was discarded. Regarding his immediate activities, Menem said: "I am going to get a well-deserved rest." Menem's son, Carlos Raul, was with his father during the news conference.

Official Postpones Trip to South Africa

PY0806001090 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 6 Jun 90 p 4

[Text] The trip that Secretary General of the Presidency Alberto Kohan was going to make yesterday with a business mission, as reported by CLARIN, has been postponed "at least until September."

The rapprochement strategy, which was to be pursued following the severance of diplomatic relations with South Africa in 1986 and was entrusted to Kohan and supported by Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo, was postponed after consultations with Foreign Ministry officials and Jorge Vazquez, Argentine delegate to the United Nations.

The prudent choice to postpone the trip prevailed in the discussions on the possibility of contacts with Pretoria. The government also wants to wait for the results of Nelson Mandela's upcoming visit to the United States, where he will receive honors accorded chiefs of state after attending the ILO meeting.

Alberto Kohan, who decided to remain in Buenos Aires until President Carlos Menem returns, knows how to alternate his duties as the head of the strategic presidential General Secretariat—which occupies a large office

adjacent to Menem's—with "intermittent" missions abroad (diplomatic and commercial) abroad.

Official Discusses Cuban Debt With Castro

PY1106020090 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1440 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Jun (DYN)—Raul Granillo Ocampo, presidential secretary for legal and technical affairs, has said that he discussed with Cuban President Fidel Castro the matter of Cuba's debt to Argentina during his recent visit to that country.

Granillo said: "I spoke with several ministers, the Central Bank president, and Castro about several issues, including the debt." Cuba is Argentina's most important debtor and "this has been an obstacle" in bilateral trade relations.

Granillo told Radio Mitre that he had an opportunity to analyze bilateral trade. He said that "the Cubans have made important progress in the area of medicine and in some paramedical activities, such as genetic engineering and the production of vaccines."

Former 'Clandestine' Detention Cells Discovered

PY1106003690 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 9 Jun 90 pp 1, 11

[Excerpts] (NA-DYN)—A clandestine detention centre used during the last military dictatorship was discovered in the basements of Galerias Pacifico, the traditional arcade located on downtown Florida Street, the daily NUEVO SUR revealed yesterday.

According to the information published by NUEVO SUR, the former clandestine detention centre was discovered by workers currently refurbishing the delapidated building, currently under transformation to eventually become a cultural centre.

Some inscriptions found at the site indicate that the detention centre presumably functioned for around four years, along with a practice rifle range presumably where death squad members once trained.

Vehicles transporting abducted prisoners are said to have entered the building through the entrance on Viamonte Street. The prisoners were later taken to the second underground level, located exactly below the garage, which was fitted with 15 small cells.

NUEVO SUR points out that inscriptions on the cell's walls were made by prisoners who went missing during the 1977-1981 period and that a small room in the centre of the site features clear evidence of gunfire on its walls.

The building's acoustics—apparently excellent, since the workers' pneumatic drills operating in the basements were never heard at the ground level—would, NUEVO SUR said, have prevented any sound from reaching the street or other areas at the arcade.

Including this latest discovery, an overall total of 341 clandestine detention centres have so far been found in the country, where 8,960 people have been recorded as "missing" after abduction, according to the National Commission for the Disappearance of Persons (Conadep).

For his part, Carlos Zamorano, lawyer for the Argentine League for Human Rights, denounced the discovery of the detention centre to the Federal Court and demanded further investigation on the matter.

Meanwhile, different human rights organizations affirmed that after the latest uncovering of another torture centre, it will be impossible to "muzzle history"—a reference to the planned presidential pardon for the former commanders-in-chief convicted for human rights' violations. [passage omitted]

Federal Prosecutor Luis Moreno Ocampo meanwhile yesterday said that, according to the evidence he possessed, the clandestine detention centre was directed by cashiered General Guillermo Suarez Mason while the "group of questioners" was led by former intelligence agent Raul Guglielminetti.

Nevertheless, Moreno Ocampo admitted that it would not be possible to prosecute either Suarez Mason or Guglielminetti in this case.

The federal prosecutor explained that Suarez Mason's extradition granted by the United States last year did not include this case, and therefore an extension of the extradition agreement should first be requested.

As of Guglielminetti, he could be excluded from the case owing to the due obedience law passed towards the end of the former Radical government.

Colombia

EPL, Government Issue Communique on Peace

PA0906140190 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1241 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] Bogota—The Virgilio Barco Vargas government and the self-styled Popular Liberation Army [EPL] have agreed on the first steps of the guerrilla group's disbanding and disarmament. At the end of a meeting between government and rebel delegates, held at an undisclosed location in Corodoba Department, a joint communique was issued on agreements that will lead to the negotiated solution to the armed conflict and the groups reincorporation into civilian life. Earlier this year the 19 April Movement [M-19] guerrillas, now a legal political party, moved to certain zones in the implementation of the peace process. A joint working commission was established to oversee a similar plan for the EPL and the locations in Cordoba where the guerrillas will go were established. The EPL general staff in Cordoba has pledged to release all the people being held in the period between the signing of the agreement and the celebration

of the next general meeting, where the EPL will express its clear commitment to begin a pacification process, the communique noted.

The communique also said that government and the rebel movement will meet a few days from now to discuss specific issues on implementing the objectives within the peace process. The joint communique stresses that both sides are aware of the significance of the specific steps taking place in Llanos del Tigre, Cordoba, the exact zone where the EPL was organized as armed rebel group, 23 years ago. Presidential peace adviser Rafael Pardo Rueda and his advisers, on behalf of the Barco Vargas government, and Bernardo Gutierrez and Julio Morales, on behalf of the EPL central command, signed the document.

Adviser Expresses 'Optimism'

PA0906191290 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] Bogota—Government peace adviser Rafael Pardo Rueda has expressed optimism concerning the results of the first dialogue with subversive movements EPL [Popular Liberation Army], Quintin Lame Commando, and the Revolutionary Workers Party [PRT]. Rueda said these three guerrilla movements have expressed a desire to attain peace, and as proof of this, they will release people who have been kidnapped. Rafael Pardo Rueda made this statement after a meeting between government spokesmen and delegates from the mentioned insurgent movements. Talks with the EPL, the Quintin Lame Commando, and the PRT began less than a month ago.

EPL Announces Cordoba Hostages To Be Released

PA0906021190 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] The EPL [Popular Liberation Army] guerrilla group has officially announced in a news conference that it will release all the hostages that it has been holding in Cordoba Department.

Presidential Counselor for Reconciliation Rafael Pardo announced the good news today. As a result of his meeting with EPL leaders in Los Llanos del Tigre, Cordoba Department, the guerrilla group will release the persons it has kidnapped. This gesture of good faith is the first step toward their reintegration into normal civilian life.

Recently, Cordoba's stock-breeders had said they would believe in the guerrilla group's sincerity only if it released 17 cattlemen who had been kidnapped in that region.

[Begin unidentified guerrilla leader recording] The country may rest assured that the people who are being held hostage by our comrades of the general staff of the Cordoba region will be returned to their families. As for the rest of the criticism leveled against our organization, we will organize a commission to carry out the corresponding investigations and clarify these charges. [end recording]

Gaviria Communique Supports Talks With Rebels

PA1006032690 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 8 Jun p 6A

[Communique issued by President-elect Cesar Gaviria; place and date not given]

[Text] Regarding the ongoing talks between the government and the Popular Liberation Army [EPL], Quintin Lame Commando, and the Revolutionary Workers Party [PRT], I would like to state the following:

1. That I have been receiving permanent and detailed reports on the course of these talks from the Government Minister and the Presidential Adviser for Reconciliation.

2. That I fully support the progress made so far, as well as the criteria used in the talks, and that I am pleased with the possiblity of reaching positive agreements on peace in the country.

3. That I will be in constant communication with the government minister and the presidential adviser to establish my position and to guide the talks concerning matters that might involve decisions by the next administration. I will do this to guarantee coherence between the present negotiations and those to be held by the government that will assume power on 7 August. Cesar Gaviria Trujillo

Official Criticizess U.S. Attitude on Aid

PA0906191190 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] House of Representatives President Norberto Morales Ballesteros has said that Colombia has never asked the United States for alms. Moreover, Morales said, the congress, during the upcoming legislative sessions, will hold a broad debate on the U.S. policies and what effect those policies will have on Colombia.

[Begin Morales recording] What annoys us is precisely the ridiculous attitude of countries like the United States, which have no consideration for us. We have never asked for alms. We have asked that restrictions not be placed on our products. We have not even asked for preferential treatment. All we are asking for is recognition of our country's efforts and the possibility of opening markets to our products.

I believe that in this respect President Barco has not met the people's expectations. We cannot believe that the U.S. aid to fight our problems will amount to millions of pesos, consisting of old planes, obsolete weapons, and some other things that will not help solve the grave problems that the country is enduring. [end recording]

Editorial Asks for 'Actions, Not Words' From U.S.

PA0806230690 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 4 Jun 90 p 4A

[Editorial: "Actions, Not Words"]

[Text] President Barco will meet tomorrow with President Bush. The two presidents have developed a very good relationship. It is pleasant to listen to the constant praise voiced by Mr. Bush and his closest aides for the Colombian Government and people in our courageous struggle against narcotics trafficking. However, so far, the voices of encouragement and the promises of assistance by the Americans have not been supported with specific actions. The U.S. military assistance of $65 million (a large part of it in second-hand equipment) and the other crumbs do not represent anything major as compared to the magnitude of the problem. We Colombians cannot understand why, if drugs are the number one problem of the United States, the assistance to our country to fight this scourge that has cost us so much is so insignificant, as compared, let us say, to the $700 million given to Panama and Nicaragua.

This is now an excellent opportunity for the United States to show it is sincere in its appreciation and concern for the Colombians. Precisely 7 June is the expiration day of the deadline given to approve or deny Colombia's admission to the Subsidies and Compensation Rights Code of the GATT. The country has been trying to gain admission, but the United States has systematically opposed this with the argument that Colombia should previously commit itself to eliminate the export incentives.

This is a very complex issue, and it is mainly a technical one. Very few Colombians understand the GATT language and much less fully understand how important it is for our Colombia to join the so-called Subsidies Code. However, this is very important for our foreign trade, and it has even more importance for the economic process on which our country has embarked.

The code is mainly an agreement between the signatory countries for the supervisory purpose of ensuring that the promotion of exports does not harm the members and that the compensatory measures do not affect international trade. Brazil, Chile, and Uruguay are the Latin American members. The code allows the developing countries to use the subsidies that will contribute to economic growth, and, more importantly, it recognizes the right to make use of the incentives to export manufactured goods. In addition, it gives a right to the members to participate in the interpretation of the various dispositions and of any modification that is proposed. One advantage is that it will not cost Colombia anything, as the expenses of the code are assumed by the GATT.

Actually, it is a matter of having a legal framework within which one can discuss all the problems related to the subsidies for exports and compensatory rights. If Colombia joins, it will have greater negotiating power to defend the interests of the national exporters. Flowers and textiles, for example, could be favored very much.

The decision of the United States on Colombia's entry, or the possibility of signing an agreement similar to the one signed with Mexico (that has been one of the proposed alternatives), wherein the incentives to the exports do not have to be eliminated or reduced, is evidently a political one. As the deadline expires tomorrow, we are confronted with a test of fire: Will the White House show with actions its goodwill regarding Colombia? We will be watching out for this, as nobody understands here the negative attitude concerning the Colombian plans.

Minister Denies Army Involvement in Subversion

PM0606140690 Barcelona LA VANGUARDIA in Spanish 31 May 90 p 14

[Interview with Defense Minister Oscar Botero Restrepo by special correspondent Joaquim Ibarz; date and place not given]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Ibarz] Both the minister of government and President-elect Cesar Gaviria have referred to the existence of a conspiracy against the elections and democracy. How is the extreme right involved in this conspiracy?

[Botero] Such statements have been made in Colombia in the past few days. It is possible that some kind of extremist group wishes to disrupt public order. We have initially identified links between drug trafficking and the acts of terrorism that have occurred in the country, and we are investigating this general rumor that drugs traffickers could also be involved in these terrorists acts of some extremist groups.

[Ibarz] Could a part or sector of the Army be involved in this conspiracy?

[Botero] I do not believe that the forces are involved in this.

[Ibarz] I mean not the forces as a whole, but part of the Armed Forces. It has just been discovered that it was an Air Force sergeant that led the commando group that placed car bombs...

[Botero] Well, of course an isolated individual can be involved in terrorist acts. The Armed Forces are not connected with the extreme right, much less with any kind of conspiracy. In general, the Army has provided reliable evidence of its loyalty to the institutions and the government, and it has also displayed its democratic attitude and disposition. It is very sad and lamentable for the forces that a terrorist leader was a sergeant, but the important thing is for individuals carrying out such activities to be discovered and arrested by the authorities and that they subsequently be given their due punishment.

[Ibarz] The secret police have on several occasions reported links between army units and paramilitary groups. How much cooperation is there between the army and the paramilitary groups who commit political assassinations?

[Botero] The Armed Forces are not implicated with the paramilitary groups, which are a phenomenon that cannot be linked with the Army in any way. They emerged in response to the violent acts committed by subversive groups.

From every viewpoint, the paramilitary groups' activities are to be rejected and condemned, because they are creating many problems in Colombia. All these groups are outside the law. The authorities are presently combating all forms of crime that undermine public order, whether on the part of subversives or paramilitary groups, as it has been decided to call them.

[Ibarz] Has there been tolerance of paramilitary groups in recent years?

[Botero] I do not believe there has been any tolerance. What happened is that they originated as self-defense organized to deal with the guerrilla organizations and were at one time legal. They later had to be set outside the law because of their actions.

[Ibarz] Three of the presidential candidates with most votes have spoken in various ways about the need for dialogue or understanding with the leaders of the Medellin cartel. Are you worried about this stance, or do you consider it a good thing?

[Botero] This is a purely political decision in which the Armed Forces are not directly involved. Whatever measure is taken will be based on the examination that they conduct and on their deliberations on whether or not to engage in talks with them.

Government To Ask Nicaragua To Extradite Pilot

PA0606171990 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1820 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Text] Bogota, 5 June (DPA)—Official sources have reported that the Colombian Government began taking steps on 5 June to secure the extradition of an active duty Colombian Air Force (FAC) pilot who was captured in Nicaragua on 3 June while trying to take 323 kg of cocaine to Guatemala.

The pilot, Leonardo Arango Florez, along with two other persons, was surprised upon making an emergency landing in the town of San Cayetano, 30 km west of Managua, where he was arrested with one of his companions.

However, according to information received in Bogota, the townspeople threatened the authorities with stones and machetes, and were able to free Arango Florez. Later, after trying to take off, the captain had to land in the Aposentillo area and was finally captured.

The Colombian Defense Ministry reported that the pilot was discharged from the FAC. Meanwhile the Foreign Ministry began taking steps at the Nicaraguan Embassy in Bogota to have the Colombians extradited.

The case of Captain Arango Florez is added to those of two other FAC members arrested over the past few days for their involvement with the drug trafficking mafia.

On 26 May junior officer Emilio Munoz Mosquera was captured with 1,110 kg of dynamite, which was to be used by the narcoterrorists to carry out attacks in the capital. Five days later another junior officer, Jaime Rodriguez Correa, was caught with five kg of cocaine paste.

Crime Wave Continues in Medellin; 4 Killed

PA0606230790 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 6 Jun 90

[Text] Four people were murdered, including a minor and a policeman, in separate incidents in northeastern Medellin. The crime wave in the Antioquia Department capital has killed more than 100 policemen so far this year. The following report from Medellin by Lays Vargas explains which areas are the most dangerous in the city:

[Begin Vargas recording] Medellin's crime rate has increased at an alarming rate month after month. May 1990 was the most tragic month in the city in recent years; 495 were violently killed last month: 437 with firearms, 43 with knives, and 11 by car bombings.

However, something new has occurred over the past few days: massacres. Men are cruising the streets of poor neighborhoods carrying automatic weapons, daring anyone to get in their way. They search for any spot where people have gathered to fire at them indiscriminately. Sidewalks, corners, barns, taverns, and streets have been sites of mass murders in which all types of people have been killed, from professionals to wanderers; anyone can be a target.

There have been 22 massacres in the past few weeks in Medellin of which 11 took place in the northeastern area, where 208 people have been killed in various incidents. This area, although still the city's most tragic, has begun to share its sad fame. The map that points out Medellin's violent areas has virtually become a general (?eruption) of red dots. Las Palmas Road is today a favorite dumping site for cadavers and Castilla, El Centro, and La America are also dangerous areas.

The worst thing is that not even militarization and restrictive measures have yielded any positive results. No one understands how the bearers of death are able to continue moving about so freely (?despite the presence) of hundreds of policemen. [end recording]

Judge Issues Arrest Warrants for UK Mercenaries

PA0706015290 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 6 Jun 90

[Text] The Bogota Third District judge has issued arrest warrants against five former British soldiers suspected of training paid assassins in Colombia. The mercenaries reportedly trained self-defense groups at the service of drug traffickers in the Middle Magdalena area in Magdalena Department. The arrest warrants were issued against Peter Stuart McCallis, who entered Colombia in January, 1989, and (Bryan David Tompkins), who has entered the country three times and has left twice, as well as (Dean Shelley), (John Owens), and Andrew Gibson.

According to the DAS [Administrative Department of Security], the escalation of terrorism in Colombia is due to the high level of training given to common criminals by the former UK soldiers. The DAS reported that it is also cooperating with Interpol in London to search for, arrest, and extradite the mercenaries to Colombia.

Interpol, Canadian Police Break Up Drug Ring

PA0706224290 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1734 GMT 7 Jun 90

[Text] Interpol and the Canadian Royal Mounted Police have dealt a new blow to international drug trafficking. Twelve Colombians and 14 Canadians were arrested in the Fortuna operation. Over the past two years this criminal organization carried out activities that exceeded 50 billion pesos.

The Interpol of Colombia and the Canadian Royal Mounted Police have been tracking this international drug trafficking ring for two years. This ring operated between Colombia and Canada since the time of the [word indistinct] bonanza. The Fortuna operation began in 1988 and ended in May 1990 when the motorboat San Lazaros was intercepted in international waters. Twenty-five tons of marijuana and 200 kg of cocaine were seized, and 12 Colombians and 14 Canadians were captured.

Sophisticated procedures were used to supply the U.S. drug market. The authorities reported that the international ring had introduced approximately 200 tons of marijuana, 4,000 kg of cocaine, and 50 billion pesos worth of opium into Canada. Buenaventura was the shipping port, and the heads of the organization were Harold Craig Brown, Alan Rankin, and Curt Nichols. They coordinated the operations between the two countries. The rest of the ring was involved in gathering, transporting, and distributing the drugs.

[Begin Interpol director recording] Before reaching the coasts, the traffickers hid the drugs underneath buoys at sea. Then the drugs were removed and distributed to the Canadian coasts and later sent by land to the principal cities of Canada. [end recording]

The 12 Colombians and 24 Canadians arrested in the Fortuna operation are in the hands of the Canadian authorities.

Deputy-elect on Arrested on Trafficking Charges

PA0706034290 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 1 Jun 90 p 8-A

[Text] Jorge Mesa Ramirez, deputy-elect to the Chamber of Deputies and former mayor of Envigado, was arrested on 31 May by members of the 4th Brigade in a rural zone of Cocorna Municipality, Antioquia Department.

The military authorities have charged the controversial Liberal Party leader with having ties with drug traffickers and hiding persons involved in the illegal drug business.

Other sources reported the capture of the person responsible for making payments for the Medellin Cartel. The arrest was made on the morning of 31 May by agents of the Goes [Special Operations Group] and the Elite Police.

Regarding Mesa's arrest, it was reported that two persons were with him at the time, although their names have been withheld. The three were at a Cocorna reststop on the Medellin-Bogota highway.

Regarding the capture made by the Goes and the police in Medellin, it was learned that a total of four persons were arrested. One of them was identified as "Pirinola," who was the person responsible for paying the terrorists traveling to Bogota to carry out attacks.

The investigation began on 26 May following the capture of the men who carried out the car bomb attack in Las Villas neighborhood and the arrest of Emilio Alberto Munoz Mosquera, Colombian Air Force (FAC) suboficer and technician.

Meanwhile, the Dijin [Directorate of Judicial Police and Investigation] supplied two composite sketches of Francis Munoz Quintero, alias "Tyson," identified as another leader of the Medellin Cartel's terrorist group.

Kidnapped Leftist Leader Found Murdered

PA0906192690 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1842 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] Bogota, 9 Jun (DPA)—It was officially reported today that authorities have found the body of Colombian leftist leader Euclides Diaz Tirado, who had been kidnapped on 6 June in a rural area of Montelibano in northern Colombia.

It was reported that the body was found in an uninhabited area of Cordoba Department. The body had several bullet wounds and showed signs of torture.

Diaz Tirado had been elected deputy of the Cordoba Departmental Assembly in the 11 March legislative elections. He had been a candidate for the Popular Front (FP).

It is believed that he was murdered by members of the extreme rightist paramilitary groups, which operate in the country with the financing of drug mafias.

Authorities Dismantle 300-Kg Car Bomb in Medellin

PA0906123690 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0326 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] Bogota, 8 Jun (NOTIMEX)—The authorities have reported that a car bomb with more than 300 kg of dynamite was dismantled this evening in a residential area of Medellin.

The Metropolitan Police stated that five bundles were found inside a blue Volvo that was parked in front of a gas station in the exclusive "El Poblado" residential area of Medellin. Each bundle contained more than 60 kg of dynamite and 20 boxes of shrapnel.

Local authorities said that the gas station employees notified the Metropolitan Police's F-2 Group, which defused the explosives upon realizing that the car was loaded with dynamite.

The Medellin Police said that the car bomb, parked by an unidentified man at 43-A Street in the capital of Antioquia Department, was equipped with a remote control system to detonate the dynamite.

Eight persons were killed and 21 injured on 24 May when a suicide terrorist detonated a car bomb at a police roadblock near the Intercontinental Hotel, one of the most important hotels in Medellin.

Peru

Fujimori Addresses Nation on Campaign

PY0906033890 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0223 GMT 9 Jun 90

[End-of-campaign message by Change 90 presidential candidate Albeto Fujimori; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] Dear fellow countrymen: I began my campaign with an optimism that grew progressively. It grew because I observed with admiration how those Peruvians who were most harmed by the crisis, hunger, and terror are everywhere lifting banners of faith of hope following the Change 90 appeal. These people are believers. They are people who are not disappointed and who do not give up in face of adversity. In Ayacucho, Huanta, Huancavelica, and Avancay I received their message of hope. Thousands of women, men, and even children have expressed their trust in me, confident that a united Peru will defeat the crisis and terrorism. Those Peruvians who for 10 years have been suffering the pain of a broken home, abandoned farmland, or a life without a future, have come out to all the squares to tell me not to give up, to say that they are with me and that the Peruvian sun will continue shining.

Those who in Lima, in the provinces, in the new districts, or in any human settlement have suffered the worst effects of the economic crisis have enthusiastically chanted the slogan: Honesty, technology, and work. How then could I not be optimistic? How can I not strengthen my lifelong convictions? How could I give up the struggle? On the contrary, I felt stronger, more enthusiastic, and more Peruvian when I learned that this is not a country of defeated people.

Tonight we want to tell you that the banner we hold, the banner of national reconstruction, is flying high. We want to build a new country with the participation of all of you, without exceptions, women and men, young or old. All of you have a place.

You already know our government program. There are many challenges. We will immediately call for national unity. Change 90 has made much progress in this sense so the political, economic, and social agents of Peru—that is, the workers, peasants, farmers, businessmen, students, professionals, pubic employees, political parties, as well as the Catholic Church, and the Armed Forces among other national institutions—will be able to discuss on a concrete basis the serious Peruvian problems and find points in common to overcome them. That will be our main direction. Our master guideline will be a national dialogue without exclusions.

A second challenge will be to begin, with the cooperation of all the economic agents, the great productive revolution. We will mobilize the economic forces with a reactivating potential to possible generate employment and produce food for the Peruvian people as soon as possible.

A third challenge will be to pacify the country, the entire national territory, by combating the causes of violence stemming from injustice. The multitudinous support of the emergency zone inhabitants, expressed through their votes and their attendance at our rallies, clearly demonstrated to us that the majority of the people want peace and development, and that they are willing to help us fight the battle against terror.

A fourth challenge is to attain an authentic and effective regionalization. This is an achievement of the Peruvian people. To achieve it means to create regional development centers and to make investments. That is why we will make all possible efforts to channel, with respect for the corresponding autonomies, all material and human energy to benefit their inhabitants. Fortunately, a Change 90 government that favors an understanding, will not have difficulties in this sense.

The fifth challenge will be to resolve as soon as possible the deterioration of the basic public services. These services are in crisis, and they are seriously affecting the

standard of living of the population. Nowdays getting transportation, drinking water, electricity, minimum health care, or a pension in Peru have become causes of anguish.

Putting an end to this situation does not only mean giving more well-being to the people but in practical terms, which is what we believe in, it means making people more efficient producers.

We are working people who entered politics because we saw that our country was going through bloodshed and ruin. A real Peruvian would not allow his country to destroy itself. You know that I spent my life studying, researching, educating, and working with professionals, students, and peasants. You know that I am not a politician. Neither do I speak like a politician. I am a Peruvian like many others who at a critical time like we are experiencing put at the disposal of the country his knowledge and experience gained in over more than 25 years of study and work to achieve real change.

The revolution that occurred with the result of the 8 April elections and which we believe will be repeated on 10 June represents a clear and conclusive rejection to the way politicians have been governing Peru.

Peruvians must chose between a shock treatment and a nonshock treatment; between the continuation of the traditional parties and the real change of the independents; between a political front which will not be able to govern because it got into fights with everyone and an independent movement, Change 90, which will carry out a government of national unity; between those who began and continue with a dirty war that tarnished this electoral process and those who propose a clear and hopeful message.

Fellow countrymen, we are now getting the attention of the entire world. This electoral process that is so important for the destiny of the nation offers the guarantee to respect the institutions such as the Armed Forces, and the National Electoral Board. The two political parties have named representatives in the entire republic. The respect for the will of the people is the first moral obligation of a candidate even if the result of the election goes against him. This is how we will give an example of democratic maturity and civilization.

With only a few hours left for the election of the president of Peru I would like to say that my vote is for you. Vote for Peru. We Peruvians are going to win on Sunday. Peru will win on Sunday. Thank you very much, countrymen.

Candidate Vargas Llosa Addresses Nation

PY0906040090 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0248 GMT 9 Jun 90

[End-of-campaign message by Mario Vargas Llosa, presidential candidate for the Democratic Front; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] Dear countrymen: Peru is like a book, an old and beautiful book that has not yet been completed. It has some very beautiful pages that speak of a great civilization built by Peruvians on the very roof of the world; pages written on the rocks of Machu Pichu and Chavin, in the fabrics of Paracas and Nasca, in the gold and silver of Inca objects. There pages of valor as those written by the ship of Grau and the sword of Bolognese.

There are also recent sports pages written with courage on the playing fields of the world by our determined women's volleyball team.

However, the book of our history does not yet have a final page. It still has blank pages that are yet to be written. Very well, I want to write those pages with all of you, without exception. Let us go, Peruvians, to write a happy ending to the book of our history so that, when we are no longer here, our children can read in that book written by 22 million hands in 1990 that Peruvians began to have a better life; that hunger, misery, and violence began to disappear; that more jobs and opportunities were available; that more savings, justice, investments, well-being were created.

Our children will read that in 1990 Peru resumed the road to greatness and again resumed its march hand in hand with the free and prosperous countries of the world. Let's go, men and women of all races, of all political lines—left, center, right—and write together that history with an happy ending of love, solidarity, and progress that can be found in the history books of countries that know how to choose their leaders. Thank you very much.

Voting Begins Amid Tight Security Measures

PA1006143390 Paris AFP in Spanish 1323 GMT 10 Jun 90

[Text] Lima, 10 Jun (AFP)—For the second time in a little over two months, at 0800, amid tight security measures all over the country, the Peruvian electorate began voting for a new president. President Alan Garcia voted five minutes after the 51,855 electoral boards opened nationwide. There are 9,923,062 registered voters, but in the previous round the absenteeism rate was close to 20 percent. According to the National Election Jury (JNE), 87,161 people living abroad must cast their votes.

Writer Mario Vargas Llosa, of the neoliberal Democratic Front (Fredemo) and agronomist Alberto Fujimori, of Change 90 —winners in the first round on 8 April—are running "almost neck and neck," according to observers. Owing to security measures prompted by threats from subversives to voters, the electoral authorities of the strife-torn Andean regions of Ayacucho, Huancavelica, Huancayo, and Pasco, which are under a state of emergency, have decided not to put indelible ink on the voters' index finger to indicate that they had voted.

Some Lima electoral boards were set up late because their members showed up late, but the JNE chief noted that the majority of the voters will get to cast their ballots during the seven-hour voting schedule. The Armed Forces and the police were seen patrolling early in the morning, while a large number of people were walking toward to the polls. Several areas of the country reported that public transportation was lacking. The polling places are scheduled to close at 1500, and the JNE is not considering the possibility of extending the time for voting.

3 Rebels Die, 8 Voters Hurt in Election Violence

PY1006223090 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2133 GMT 10 Jun 90

[Text] Lima, 10 Jun (EFE)—Three alleged rebels died and eight voters were wounded in an attack today in the city of Huancayo, 415 km southeast of Lima, on election day in Peru.

In Huancayo the National Police found the bodies of three young men who were apparently killed by soldiers during the curfew imposed by the military authority. The dead men were carrying explosives. Two of the bodies were found near the "Tupac Amaru" School, a polling station against which the two men were trying to carry out an attack.

Alleged rebels also hurled explosives at voters who were either going to or coming from a polling station on a road five km from Huancayo. Eight voters were wounded, some of them seriously.

The election went normally in Huancayo, capital of Junin Department, in the central mountain range of Peru, despite the "armed strike"—a strike under threat of death—called by the "Shining Path" terrorist gang. The "strike," which was called for 9-10 June, has forced the Army and the National Police to double patrols in the city, which is a "Shining Path" stronghold. Some voters were taken to polling stations by military personnel.

Vargas Llosa Acknowledges Fujimori's Victory

PY1106011190 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 2241 GMT 10 Jun 90

[Speech by Mario Vargas Llosa, presidential candidate for the Democratic Front, Fredemo, to supporters gathered outside Fredemo headquarters in Lima—live]

[Text] Dear countrymen:

The Peruvian people have made their decision known.... [shouts, cheers] The Peruvian people have made their decision known in an election that fortunately seems to have been conducted normally. [Crowd shouts: "Vargas, president!"]

Surveys conducted outside polling stations show that an unmistakable majority has favored my contender. [shouts]

Because I respect democratic practices, I am hereby submitting to the decision of the Peruvian people. [applause] I congratulate Engineer Alberto Fujimori for his victory. [applause] In my name, in the name of the freedom movement, in the name of Fredemo, and in your name, I wish him success in the difficult task that the Peruvian people have entrusted to him. [applause]

Dear countrymen, a long, tough electoral campaign is thus coming to an end. As it cannot be otherwise in a country like ours, this campaign has also been violent. [applause, shouts]

We want to pay tribute to those who fell during these months as a result of fanaticism and intolerance. Let us not ask those Peruvians who fell about their political affiliation or ideology. They are all our martyrs. They are all heroes of our democracy.

It is necessary, it is essential, for all wounds to be healed now. The resentment, distrust, and enmity that normally arise in an electoral process must now be put aside. It is our obligation as Peruvians to do our share to restore harmony, peace, and coexistence within the Peruvian family. It is necessary to do this to consolidate our most precious asset—this fragile democracy—as well as to prevent the new government from failing. [applause]

I want to thank my Fredemo allies, the Popular Action Party and the Popular Christian Party, for their solidarity, democratic spirit, and all the support they have given me. Among their leaders, I want to thank architect Fernando Belaunde Terry [applause], Dr. Luis Bedoya Reyes, Dr. Javier Silva Ruete, Dr. Manolo Moreira [applause], and the most modest members of these political forces. [Crowd shouts: "Freedom, freedom!"]

I wholeheartedly thank Eduardo Orrego and Ernesto Alayza Grundy for having shared with me the presidential slate. [shouts, applause]

Because it is required by the rules of etiquette, I want to finally thank my own family and my friends in the freedom movement [applause, shouts of "Freedom, freedom"] The fact that I am mentioning you last does not mean, friends of the freedom movement, that you are not first in my grateful heart.

Nobody but me knows how much I owe you, how much our fatherland owes you, and how much the cause of freedom owes you. I cannot mention all of you; I do not even remember the faces or the names of all the men and women who have worked with me for two and a half years in the freedom movement. [applause, shouts]

[Words indistinct] that behind each mobilization of district committees, of solidarity action, initiatives of women; behind all these organizations and names, there

is a great movement of generosity, of idealism, of silent and dedicated work toward building a better future for Peru. [shouts]

Friends of the freedom movement, a democracy is built through electoral victories and defeats, and they both contribute to the functioning of a democracy. The work you have carried out during these past two and a half years was not marked by defeats, but only by victories. I know, I am sure, that the Peruvian people will one day also recognize that the seeds that we have sown together during these two and a half years will sprout and will ultimately yield the good fruits we want for our country, such as modernization, justice, prosperity, peace, and freedom. Long live Peru. Thank you. [applause]

Fujimori Addresses Supporters in Lima

PY1106024590 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0003 GMT 11 Jun 90

[Speech by Change 90 presidential candidate Alberto Fujimori to supporters from the balcony of the Hotel Crillon in Lima—live]

[Text] Dear countrymen:

First, I want to convey to you and to the entire Peruvian people a heartfelt thank you. [shouts, applause]

Thank you very much for the extensive support you have given me through your votes nationwide, in Lima as well as the most distant provinces. [applause]

I humbly accept these preliminary projections, which will certainly be translated into official figures and will ultimately result in victory for the people's movement, Change 90. [applause, crowd shouts "Peru, Peru"]

After such an arduous, tough campaign, we must say—as you are chanting now—that it is not only Change 90 but all Peruvians who have won here. [applause, shouts]

Because of this victory for Peru, because I am representing all of the Peruvian people, I feel more motivated, stronger, more committed to implementing those projects that will bring well-being to so many neglected towns, to so many fellow countrymen who have been slighted for too long. A new era is beginning in the history of Peru. [applause]

We want to write our history as of 28 July through undertakings that will bring well-being to the people, through a new leadership and a new style that will be more objective, more technical, with less political chicanery, and that will promote above all both national and popular interests. To achieve this goal, I have stated from the beginning of my campaign that we are going to promote national unity, national agreement, and a social pact for development so that we Peruvians may strive together for our fatherland. [applause]

The electoral campaign generated frictions over disagreements that were either justifiable or unnecessary, normal or artificially created. I want to tell every Peruvian that these are things of the past. We must look ahead so that Peruvians will not fight among themselves but against the crisis, misery, and hunger. [applause, shouts]

We did not have to bring ourselves down to the level of a dirty war. Those are things of the past; the Peruvian people have once again shown that they are capable of deciding, of choosing conscientiously. Through concerted action; through everyone's participation, workers and employers included; through all political parties; and through a united Peru, the people have shown their wisdom in taking sides, in taking a position that will enable those of us who come from sectors that have been neglected for many years to tell you that this is the new path. Peruvian friends, long live Peru. [crowd shouts "Long live Peru"]

Fujimori Holds Victory News Conference

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[News conference by Change 90 presidential candidate Alberto Fujimori with local and foreign reporters in the Peru Hall of the Hotel Crillon in Lima—live]

[Text] [Fujimori] First, I want to sincerely apologize for this uncomfortable arrangement [referring to very crowded situation in the Peru Hall]. I hope you will understand. I also want to take this occasion to thank you very much for your cooperation with the Change 90 movement and with this electoral process in general. Your cooperation has been instrumental in holding the election with the civic spirit and correctness that is expected from a democratic country like Peru. I therefore want to say thank you very much to you members of the national press and to those of you who came to visit us from friendly countries. [applause]

I beg my supporters to please understand that this is a news conference. We will celebrate with everyone at our headquarters at Grau Avenue later.

Gentlemen, although no final results have been released, the electoral projections indicate overwhelming support for our slate. We are holding this news conference and thanking the Peruvian people for the support they have given us not only in today's election, but throughout the entire electoral campaign—both during the first round and the runoff.

The commitment represented by my possible election as president of the Republic is a challenge, a responsibility that I will fully assume with the awareness that Peru's political reality requires an extraordinary effort. To allow the country to move forward, we need unity and harmony. I am sure that this electoral dispute will soon be a thing of the past, a part of our history. We Peruvians must look ahead because the crisis, in its various forms, is dealing us terrible blows. We believe that Peru, thanks

to a people with a longstanding tradition, can succeed through our effort, national unity, and a national agreement.

Gentlemen, I am sure you have some questions that I will be happy to answer.

[Reporter] What will be your first action as president?

[Fujimori] We will continue to work on our government plan, but starting tomorrow we will also begin to project our programs through the transfer committees and then prepare ourselves to take over the government in the most effective manner on 28 July. I would not like to talk about any of the measures to be implemented because we can only do that after we have been proclaimed the winner by the National Electoral Board and after we have been inaugurated.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] I simply said that all the harsh incidents that occurred during the electoral campaign are now in the past. Peru must now look to the future. Our proposals, although they are different from those of Fredemo [Democratic Front], can perhaps be supported by our adversaries to establish a government of national unity. And not only by Fredemo, but by all political forces and all the economic and productive forces of the country, which are very important. We also need the participation of various organizations such as the universities, the Catholic Church, and the Armed Forces.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] There is no doubt that the country won with this election. It is not Change 90 that won; democracy won, democracy. The will of the people favored a Change 90 government. I would like to tell the Peruvian people through all of you reporters that this will be a government of the people and for the people for the next five years.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] I am inviting all the political forces—and this is not the first time—to participate in the new government.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] We already explained in our government plan, in the debate, and on several occasions. At any rate our economic plan is open for discussion with the main political and productive forces of the country.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] Let me say that all the points of our plan can be put on the table for an agreement. Someone asked me about the economic aspects, such as the foreign debt. There are no major differences on this issue. There is a common goal, which is the insertion of Peru into the international financial community, the renegotiation of the debt, and the fulfillment of our commitments. Therefore, just as there is agreement on this issue, there is also agreement on other issues such as agriculture. In addition to the precepts established in the Constitution, all the political parties agree that the agricultural sector must be developed on a priority basis. There are many other points on which agreements can be reached almost immediately. Of course, some agreements will require discussions and analysis, but these will take place at the appropriate time.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] Our position is very clear, and I believe that the position of the Peruvian people is very clear. We will implement a strict policy of moralization to abolish all cases of corruption and crimes of different kinds.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] Let me reiterate: We will take measures on all cases of corruption. This is an authentic independent movement that is not committed to any groups; it will not cover up corruption.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] I just said that we are seeking national agreement.

[Reporter] There is talk that you may travel to Japan, that there are preparations to welcome you. Is that true?

[Fujimori] Frankly speaking, let me tell you that I was not planning to travel to Japan, but in the land of my forefathers there are great expectations and great interest in the problems of Peru and the possibility of aid for our country.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] We will continue our close relations with all friendly countries, especially with Latin America. As for some economic aspects, we believe that it is important to concentrate on our relations with the countries of the Pacific Basin. We can strengthen our relations with these countries to our mutual benefit.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] You should understand that we do not want to make any differences between supporters of any political organizations. I beg you not to distort my remarks or to state your opinion as if it were mine. Let me reiterate: All Peruvians will be summoned for this government of national unity. No honest Peruvian of goodwill and great ability will be disregarded in deciding on government positions.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] The national agreement proposal refers to that issue, and this proposal was included in the multiparty report for the Senate on which we agreed. We are going to implement it with the support of the Armed Forces.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] With the full compliance of the international declaration on human rights.

[Reporter] Regarding agriculture, will the land continue to be plowed with tractors?

[Fujimori] I do not want to get involved in specific issues, but regarding agricultural development, the most modern and appropriate technology will be used in the development of agriculture, industry, and commerce.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] The educational system we are going to propose is one that gives graduate students a spirit of production rather than consumption, graduates who would create jobs rather than seek administrative positions. What we want is an educational system that will lead to the creation of more jobs.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] As I said, we are going to strengthen relations with all countries.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] All of our plans are open to discussion with all the political and productive forces. After agreement is reached, they will be implemented for the benefit of all.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] Of course the national savings will not be touched at all. Perhaps your concern comes from the idea of a shock plan. Instead of doing that we will encourage savings to finance the important investments the country needs.

[Reporter] Will changes be made in the monetary system?

[Fujimori] I reaffirm my belief that we need a change in the monetary system.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] I just said that we will implement an open policy, a policy of respect for the sovereignty of other countries, the friendly countries. This is why I said that it will be a policy of respect for the sovereign decisions of other countries.

[Reporter] What is the date for the establishment of the new monetary policy?

[Fujimori] I would not like to give any date on this issue. The economic, monetary, and financial aspects that are so important in the fight against the crisis will be studied with all the political and productive forces of the country.

[Reporter] What about the names of future cabinet members?

[Fujimori] What I can give you is perhaps a negative answer. None of the names publicly mentioned in some publications will be considered. The names of future cabinet members are also open for discussion. We do not want to have a rigid stance in this regard.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] We work on a different basis. We are not a traditional political organization. We are an independent and open movement with a formal party structure, but it has the peculiarity that this movement does not have professional politicians. We are, however, willing to listen to proposals from other parties. This is why we have quote, some advantages, unquote, toward achieving national agreement.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] The answer is not yes or no. This should be made clear; to solve—for example—a health problem, there are more than two choices. There are many choices. The choice I proposed is a stabilization of the economy, balanced prices, and a reactivation of the productive sector.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] We are seeking a consolidation of the Andean Pact but we can go even farther now that the world is being organized into very powerful economic blocs. We believe that Latin America must become another big bloc to develop at the continental level.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] I am not sure about those figures; it seems to me that they are under $100 million.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] The national Constitution and all the legal measures are clear in this regard and we respect the Constitution and the laws. Furthermore, I fully identify with freedom of expression and freedom of the press because I am convinced that the truth must be openly defended. The truth should be defended with the truth.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] Agro-industry is an important complement to agricultural development. I mentioned in the debate that this is the fourth modernization aspect we have proposed for rural development. Regarding terrorism, let me say this is a serious problem that should be faced in a decisive manner. There are two aspects I have already mentioned. I am talking about the structural violence caused by social injustice, poverty, misery, and hunger.

From another standpoint, subversion should also be fought with the decisive support of our Armed Forces. On 8 April and again today the Peruvian people dealt a defeat to terrorism with their massive participation in the elections, which have the lowest percentage of blank and null votes ever experienced in the electoral history of Peru.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] Of course, we are not going to implement a policy of starting everything from scratch. That will not be the policy of Change 90. Our position is very clear. On drug trafficking, I would like to say that we should not continue with the current policy because of the increase in the area under coca cultivation. In the last 10 years, as a result of the repressive measures, the area under coca cultivation has increased by about 100,000 hectares. The repressive measures have only eradicated 5,000 hectares. We should not continue with illusions. We have to take effective measures, and this means implementing an overall policy which will at least allow our peasants to survive.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] This is part of our overall policy for rural development. It is necessary to create markets for our agricultural products. The creation of markets requires means of communication.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] The financing for this area in particular should be made by international organizations and by the countries that share responsibility for this problem. Let us not forget that the drug trafficking problem is not a Peruvian problem but a multinational and international one.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Fujimori] I believe that complementary action can be carried out. What we will not allow is direct military intervention or participation.

Reporters, we have so many things to still talk about. I thank you for coming.